A SECOND ESSAY ON THE MEDICINAL VIRTUES OF HEMLOCK, &c.

HEMLOCK &c.

TO

MEDICINAL VIRTUES.

OR THE

SECOND PART.

A SECOND ESSAY ON THE MEDICINAL VIRTUES OF HEMLOCK.

In which its Efficacy in the Cure of many deſperate Diſorders is fully confirmed by a great Variety of REMARKABLE CASES, where this Remedy has been adminiſtered by ſeveral eminent Phyſicians and Surgeons in different Parts of Germany and Flanders, as well as by the AUTHOR,

Anton, Baron von

Dr. ANTONY STÖRCK,

Aulic Councellor and one of the Principal Phyſicians to Her Moſt Sacred Majeſty the EMPRESS QUEEN, and Phyſician to the Pazmarian City-Hoſpital at Vienna.

Together

With COROLLARIES and CAUTIONS.

Tranſlated from the Original LATIN, by a PHYSICIAN.

LONDON:

Printed for T. BECKET, and P. A DE HONDT, at Tully's Head, near Surry-Street in the Strand.

M DCC LXI.

A

SECOND ESSAY

ON THE

MEDICINAL VIRTUES

OF

HEMLOCK.

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M DCC LXI.

TO

Her Moſt Sacred Majeſty,

MARIA TERESA,

QUEEN of HUNGARY,

EMPRESS of the ROMANS.

YOUR Majeſty's moſt gracious condeſcenſion in accepting the dedication of my firſt eſſay on the medicinal virtues of hemlock, has excited all my diligence and attention in the continuance of the ſame purſuit.

I have made ſeveral new trials of this plant, I have diligently obſerved the hiſtory of diſorders, I have carefully collected caſes from other practitioners; and of all theſe, this ſecond eſſay is compoſed.

It

DEDICATION.

It contains ſeveral uſeful obſervations; and one truth is very clearly demonſtrated in it, that moſt cruel and dangerous diſtempers are, by the hemlock alone, abated, cured.

Many perſons are now alive, who, without this remedy, had been already dead.

As every thing which tends to the public utility, is acceptable to your Majeſty, I flatter myſelf, that this diſſertation, which is publiſhed with that end, will be favorably received by you.

I have the honor to be, your Majeſty's

moſt faithful ſubject,

and devoted ſervant,

Antony Störck.

The

THE

PREFACE.

THE oftener I have administered the hemlock, the more I have had an opportunity of admiring the virtue and efficacy of this plant.

There are numberless disorders, in which it is of great benefit and use.

But it is needless to make any encomiums here upon this plant, as the cases themselves, most carefully collected, and minutely described, contain sufficient accounts of its service and importance.

I often had reason to rejoice, at seeing patients who were despaired of and abandoned

doned by other phyſicians, recovered in conſequence of having uſed this plant, and completely cured of every complaint.

What can be dearer to any man than health?

I ſhall employ therefore all the leiſure, which my practice will allow me, in new experiments, and in diſcovering remedies, which may be efficacious in obſtinate diſeaſes.

Nor are my hopes of ſucceſs entirely vain.

I ſhall, however, attempt nothing raſhly; but ſhall always make a previous trial on brute animals, and on my own perſon, of any remedy which I ſhall propoſe to adminiſter afterwards to any of my patients.

In this manner, my conſcience will be ſafe, and my conduct upright.

A PRE-

MOST AUGUST

EMPRESS

OF THE

ROMANS.

THOUGH all the arts and ſciences, re-eſtabliſhed by your favour and unbounded goodneſs, are cultivated and improved in the very antient univerſity of Vienna, with unexpreſſible induſtry and emulation; it muſt nevertheleſs be acknowledged, that, above all others, the ſcience of MEDICINE increaſes and flouriſhes in a remarkable degree.

Nor is this ſurpriſing; ſince not only the moſt celebrated profeſſors in this branch, with the greateſt aſſiduity, exert their utmoſt endeavours to inſtruct and confirm their pupils in whatever relates either to the theory or the true practice of phyſick. But theſe alſo, trained up in this ſchool, when they become practitioners themſelves,

following the example of their maſters, labour, by diligent ſtudy and accurate obſervation, to enlarge the bounds of the healing art.

In purſuance of this plan, I compiled laſt year, an account of facts obſerved in my hoſpital, and publiſhed them.

It gave me the higheſt ſatisfaction to find this performance received with a degree of approbation and applauſe it perhaps did not deſerve, by men the moſt eminent in the profeſſion.

Encouraged by this ſucceſs, I have taken great pains, in making another collection for this year alſo.

But as I imagine the new experiments I have made, concerning the uſe of hemlock, deſerve in a particular manner to be imparted to the public, I have compriſed a faithful and exact account of them in this eſſay.

As I am convinced mankind will receive conſiderable advantages from this publication,

tion, I have humbly preſumed to lay it at the feet of your Moſt Sacred Majeſty: it being evident, from manifold experience, that you always receive moſt graciouſly thoſe literary productions which are calculated to promote happineſs and health, that you afford them your protection, and that from your conſummate benevolence you render them more extenſively beneficial.

I make no doubt but that this eſſay, having the ſanction of your moſt illuſtrious name, will induce other phyſicians to make farther experiments with all neceſſary circumſpection.

For my own part, whatever may hereafter be in my power towards alleviating or removing the diſtreſſes of the ſick, I will (if it pleaſe God) with the greateſt ardour and diligence, endeavour to perform.

ADVERTISEMENT.

AS the preparations of Hemlock, ſo highly recommended by Dr. *Stork*, have been attended with remarkable ſucceſs in this country, I imagine any apology for our tranſlation will be unneceſſary. This taſk I the more willingly undertook, as the *London* tranſlation of the firſt eſſay abounds with the moſt palpable blunders, wherein the tranſlator's ignorance of the Latin, as well as inattention, are equally obvious. Of both theſe I ſhall beg leave to point out a few inſtances; and as ſome of them alter the caſes in the moſt material circumſtances, I requeſt the purchaſers of that edition to mark them as *Errata* in their copies.

In the ſecond edition of that tranſlation, ſaid to be *reviſed* and *corrected*, the word *ſeſqui*, ſignifying *one and a half* of any thing, is rendered ſometimes *ſix*, and at other times *ſeven*. Thus in the fourth caſe, inſtead of a *year and a half*, the woman is ſaid to have been afflicted with a ſtoney hardneſs in her breaſt for *ſeven* years.—In like manner in the eighth caſe, a woman is repreſented as having received her hurt *ſix years* before, inſtead of *eighteen months*. And in the twentieth caſe, Dr. *Stork* ſays the breaſt began to grow ſoft in a *month and half* or *ſix weeks*, which his tranſlator, according to cuſtom,

cuſtom, prolongs to *ſix months*.—A remarkable difference in the period of a cure!

In the ſixth caſe, Dr. *Stork* ſays the infant received no detriment by *ſucking* the mother. But his tranſlator aſſerts juſt the contrary, *viz. that it did not ſuffer any by* refuſing *the mother's breaſt.*

It is obſerved in the ninth caſe, that on continuing the ſolution of ſublimate, the troubleſome ſymptoms it at firſt occaſioned went off; but it raiſed a ſlight ſalivation, which *gave the patient no relief.*—A circumſtance intirely omitted by the tranſlator, though it be neceſſary to make the ſentence which follows intelligible.

In the ſixteenth caſe, we might be induced to imagine an injection penetrates into the *pericardium* or *ſeat of the heart*, (*ſcrobiculum cordis* being ſo tranſlated) inſtead of the *pit of the ſtomach.*

Errors like theſe above-mentioned, occur very frequently.

Inaccuracies, from want of proper attention, are alſo very numerous: where the *right* is ſubſtituted for the *left*; where *de die* is tranſlated *the night time*; *jus vitulinum*, mutton broth; *binas ſeptimanas*, a month; *tubera* inſtead of *tubercles*, &c. &c.

Beſides the omiſſion of ſingle words, we find ſometimes in this tranſlation whole ſentences left out.

For example: in the ſecond caſe, the ſentence beginning *Decimo April* &c. is intirely omitted, by which the connection is very remarkably interrupted. In the ſame manner, in the eleventh caſe, the ſentence beginning with *Sexto Jul.* &c. makes another chaſm.

It is time, however, to diſmiſs ſo diſagreeable a ſubject.

I ſhall conclude with a neceſſary caution with regard to the manner of making the extract. The juice is not to be depurated. It may be boiled over a fire, or rather a ſand-heat, till it begins to thicken: but it ought to be finiſhed in a balneum mariæ, by which means the flavour and virtues of the plant will be effectually preſerved.

Aberdeen, May 1762.

PRE-

A PREFACE, BY THE Tranſlator of the following ESSAY.

TO write a preface to a book, is often endeavoring to entertain the reader about that of which he is ſuppoſed to have hitherto no knowledge; but as moſt perſons who intend to read this ſecond diſſertation of Doctor Störck's, have peruſed already his firſt eſſay, a few reflexions concerning his opinion, may without impropriety, be prefixed to the preſent publication.

The very grounds of the obligation which mankind will owe to Doctor Störck for this diſcovery, if confirmed to be true, by the united voice of all candid practitioners in phyſic, appear at preſent the greateſt obſtacle that it meets.

To prove, in oppoſition to a moſt ancient and learned prejudice, that hemlock can, not only, be ſafely taken inwardly, but that alſo, in every method of application, it is of conſiderable efficacy in various very difficult diſorders, and deſerves, even in ſome, to be accounted a ſpecific; is taking ſo huge a ſtride beyond the beaten path of medicinal doctrines, is forcing, with

ſuch violence, opinions from the mind, to which deep-rooted cuſtom had rendered them pleaſing and familiar; that no ridicule, however unjuſt, but will be thrown upon it; that no objection, however weak, but will be enforced againſt it.

Weak or intereſted men have often ſo falſely attributed eminent virtues to various plants and preparations, that not only univerſal medicines, which are as contrary to experience as to reaſon, are now unanimouſly decried; but even every effort made to prove the efficacy of any new remedy, in ſeveral different complaints, is generally ſuppoſed to be the effect of credulity or deceit; and in order to acquire a reputation in the world, after having cured the diſorders for which it has been applied, it muſt likewiſe overcome the ridicule of being compared, by the affecters of wit, and the lovers of ſuſpicion, to former attempts of the like kind, that began with ſucceſs, and ended in diſappointment.

What has happened to men of the moſt ſenſe and candor, has alſo been the lot of Doctor Störck.

Some few perſons have, at the ſame time, accuſed him of aſſerting more than he obſerved, and of meaning more than he aſſerted. They who could ſcarce give credit to the ſmall number of caſes he relates, in which, ſome of the complaints were cured, and ſome relieved by the hemlock plant, choſe, however, to attribute to him a deſign of extending its uſe to much greater lengths, and of paſſing it for an infallible ſpecific in many diſtempers, differing eſſentially

eſſentially from each other, and in every complicated combination of circumſtances and ſymptoms that could poſſibly attend them.

But, far from a deſire of exaggeration, Doctor Störck ſeems indeed to ſtart back, and be amazed at the ſucceſs of his own experiments, and at the extenſiveneſs of his diſcovery; and what is as remarkable as it is concluſive in his favor, his correſpondents have adminiſtered this medicine in a greater variety of diſtempers, and have related more ſurpriſing cures than moſt of thoſe which he communicates to the public from his own experience.

And yet, notwithſtanding any multitude of facts, however well ſupported, or reaſons however valid, it will ſtill carry the appearance of falſehood, or of folly, to declare that any one remedy has completely cured diſeaſes ſo different from each other, as the gout, the ſcurvy, and the rheumatiſm, together with ſchirrous ſwellings, and ulcerated cancers. The cenſure would certainly prove juſt, were it pretended, from theſe ſingle inſtances of ſucceſs, to draw a general concluſion in favor of the efficacy of this medicine, in all other gouts, ſcurvies, rheumatiſms, whatſoever, as well as in every cancer.

But here the error lies, which is ſo favorable to phyſical pretenders who are willing to deceive, and ſo plauſible in the eyes of thoſe who are ignorant of the true nature of diſorders.

The common reader will, perhaps, be exceedingly ſurpriſed to hear what every judicious

ſtudent of the medical art muſt be ſenſible of, that diſeaſes are not ſo much to be conſidered from the ſigns which manifeſt them outwardly, as from the inward cauſes which produce them; that to ſoften a ſwelling, or mitigate a pain, for the preſent moment, is to palliate, not to cure; a temporary relief attended frequently by future evil; that he alone poſſeſſes the merit, and deſerves the reputation of a true phyſician, who, with a view to the real amendment of his patient's health and conſtitution, attacks the diſorder in its ſource, endeavoring to rectify that diſpoſition of the ſolids, and correct thoſe vices of the humors, which have been the cauſes of its appearance; and preferring to take away the foundation of the ill, rather than to be employed in alleviating, ſucceſſively, the conſequences that might ariſe from it.

They who are acquainted with the animal oeconomy, when ſound and when diſturbed, are ſufficiently conſcious, that according to the temperaments of men, and to external circumſtances, which vary to ſo great a degree, ſymptoms very diſtant in their appearance from each other, are produced, however, by the ſame alteration of the firm, or the ſame corruption of the fluid parts; as well as that, from cauſes very ſeparate in themſelves, the ſame diſorder may often ariſe.

Hence it appears not difficult to account, why remedies, whoſe efficacy conſiſts in deſtroying the cauſe of ill, and which have been reckoned moſt ſpecific, ſuch as mercury, for example, and the bark,

bark, ſometimes fail in curing venereal infections or intermitting fevers; why, in the ſame diſorder, the experienced practitioner muſt change ſo often his method and his medicines; why one remedy is capable of curing different complaints; and why that remedy, which has proved once ſucceſsful, may not be always found ſufficient againſt the like complaint.

From this doctrine, perhaps, ſometimes not ſufficiently conſidered, tho confirmed and allowed, of different diſtempers ariſing from the ſame origin, and different ſources producing the ſame diſtemper, by a variation of diſpoſitions and circumſtances, the following concluſions may be reaſonably deduced: that, of thoſe evils againſt each of which any one remedy commonly prevails, the prediſpoſing cauſes are generally the ſame, ſubjected to thoſe exceptions only where this remedy is found to fail; that thoſe diſeaſes, which on various occaſions require oppoſite applications, depend on many principles; that the ſeveral diſorders which a ſingle remedy ſubdues, however diſtant in their appearances, are connected in their cauſes; and that therefore, in theſe caſes where Dr. Störck and his correſpondents have found the hemlock efficacious in other diſtempers as well as in cancerous complaints, in which laſt it is an almoſt certain and ſovran cure, there exiſted an analogy between that habit of body of which cancers are commonly the conſequence, and that other which, in the inſtances related by theſe gentlemen, produced the ſcurvy, gout, or rheumatiſm.

He

He who conſiders with attention theſe conſequences which I have drawn from undoubted truths, will become ſenſible of the injuſtice with which we are apt to confound with the credulous or deceitful, who boaſt of ſecrets infallible in many ills, thoſe other perſons who ſeek remedies againſt inveterate ailments with ſagacity, judgment and experience, as well as with humanity, candor, and diſintereſtedneſs, and who content themſelves ſimply with relating thoſe inſtances in which they or others have found ſuch particular plants or preparations uſeful.

It well deſerves to be remarked, that Doctor Störck, nor any of thoſe who followed his directions, have ever adminiſtered the hemlock till the medicines moſt commended in ſimilar complaints had been found ineffectual. This conduct they have purſued, after multiplied ſucceſs, even in all the ſchirrous or cancerous caſes which have been entruſted to their care. Much leſs were they inclined to preſcribe it in other diſorders, where they had fewer grounds to expect benefit from it. And if any thing can enſure the reputation of this remedy, ſurely it muſt be, that many perſons, in many places, have received infinite ſervice from it, in various deſperate diſeaſes, which had reſiſted the moſt powerful remedies, and had been thought incurable by ſome of the beſt phyſicians.

To the examples of its ſucceſs in Germany, Italy, and Flanders, which are inſerted in Doctor Störck's diſſertation, I may with confidence ſubjoin, that in Scotland and in Ireland ſeveral

cures

cures have been performed by it; and that even in London, where it has met with multiplied obſtructions from the eagerneſs of ſome who had not patience to wait the effect of its operation, from the intereſted clamors of others, from the miſtake which ſeveral have committed in chooſing a wrong ſpecies of the hemlock, and from the too great nicety of apothecaries in depurating the juice, many perſons, however, have received benefit from it.

If I may be allowed the pleaſing fancy of ſuppoſing this article in medicine carried to perfection, nothing more now ſeems neceſſary to complete the diſcovery of this ingenuous and humane phyſician, and to render it ſuperior, perhaps, to mercury, opium, or the bark, as far as we are yet acquainted with them, than to poſſeſs the method of diſtinguiſhing with certainty from the reſt, the few cancerous and ſchirrous caſes in which this plant is uſeleſs or pernicious; and of finding out, on the contrary, the particular kinds of gout, ſcurvy, rheumatiſm, and other diſorders, where it may be adminiſtered with ſecurity and advantage.

After having hitherto conſidered the conduct of the author of the following diſſertation, the tranſlator of it deſires to be heard a moment for himſelf.

An original work, in any language, may be written with latitude and ſpirit; intended for the learned, technical terms may be frequently employed, alluſions may be admitted, many things are ſuppoſed to be underſtood previouſly by the reader.

If the latin tongue is choſen, it is addreſſed

to

to perſons of knowlege in every part, precluding, at the ſame time, the ignorant of all nations.

Tranſlations from a living language, or even from any other of the dead ones, may aſpire to a higher claſs of readers; but he, who changes latin phraſes into engliſh, muſt ſeldom expect to be peruſed but by the young and ignorant; except, perhaps, when men of letters, from a ſpirit of criticiſm and curioſity, condeſcend to run it over, according to their phraſe, in a few minutes.

Let ſuch, therefore, reflect, that this tranſlation is by no means calculated for them; that conſequently, all latin and greek words are generally left out, when more familiar expreſſions could be recollected; that the good opinion of the public being ſometimes neceſſary as a ſanction to practitioners in the preſcribing of new remedies, ſo care has been taken to adapt to the general peruſal the tranſlation of this eſſay on the virtues of hemlock, by avoiding, as much as poſſible, technical and appropriated terms, by endevoring to hide all foreign or uncouth appearance, and by rendering the ſtile as clear, as conciſe, and as little aukward, as the nature of the ſubject and the abilities of the tranſlator would allow.

CHAP-

CHAPTER I.

MANY diſputes have ariſen among phyſicians and botaniſts, concerning the particular ſpecies of hemlock of which I have prepared the extract.

The deſcription, however, which I gave of it from Moriſon, in my former diſſertation, was ſufficiently clear.

I ſhall therefore only add at preſent, that the hemlock which I employ is the *large, common, ſpotted, ſtinking hemlock.*

Linnæus mentions it under the name of *Conium ſeminibus ſtriatis*, in his book of the ſpecies of plants, page 243, number 1.

It is deſcribed by Mathiolus in p. 772.

Caſpar Bauhin has it in p. 160. Tabern. in p. 1170.

Cluſius calls it *Cicutaria major vulgaris.* See hiſt. 2. p. 200.

For the purpoſe of an extract, this plant is beſt gathered before its flowers are full blown.

Every part of the plant, except the root, may be employed upon this occaſion.

The juice, expreſſed into an earthen glazed veſſel, is to be placed over a ſlow fire, and often ſtirred, in order to be boiled to the conſiſtence of a thick extract.

Apothecaries ſeem to have been too careful in depurating this juice; for I rather prefer the extract which is thickeſt, and almoſt equal to a pulp.

It may alſo be prepared from a decoction of the dried plant, when it cannot be procured freſh: but by this means its efficacy is very much diminiſhed.

Some hundreds weight of the extract of hemlock, prepared from the dried plant, have been ſent from Vienna into other countries. It was done without my knowledge, and gives me great uneaſineſs; for the extract thus prepared cannot produce ſuch good nor ſuch quick effects, as if it had been made from the plant when freſh.

This herb was always ſuſpected by the apothecaries to be poiſonous; ſo that at firſt they were unwilling to prepare as great a quantity as I foreſaw would be neceſſary.

But when a demand was made for it from all parts, the freſh plant was no longer to be found.

CHAPTER II.

CASE I.

A Female ſervant, twenty-two years old, complained ever ſince her childhood of ſchirrous ſwellings of the glands under the ears, and near the jaw-bone. Five years ago a large ſwelling aroſe in her left cheek, which, extending itſelf down the ſame ſide of her neck, to her collar-bone, was

was hard always as a ſtone, and without pain.

Within theſe laſt three years this ſwelling gradually increaſed to the ſize of a man's head; the glands of the arm-pits became alſo hard; fifteen ſchirs *, the ſmalleſt of which was equal to a hen's egg, filled alſo the right ſide of the neck; and both her breaſts were likewiſe become ſchirrous.

This woman, diſagreeable as ſuch a ſituation muſt render her, contracted, however, the venereal diſorder.

She came on this occaſion to our hoſpital.

I treated the new infection with antivenereal decoctions, and purges mixed with calomel; the conſequence of which was, that ſome of the pocky ſymptoms were mitigated.

But, as this method of cure ſeemed too ſlow, I changed it in favour of a ſolution of corroſive ſublimate in corn ſpirits, together with a ſtrong and plentiful decoction of burdock root.

By this means ſhe was perfectly cured of the venereal diſorder in the ſpace of five weeks.

But no alteration happened in the ſchirrous ſwellings; except, that in the right breaſt greater pain was felt.

I was now willing to attempt diſſolving theſe ſeveral ſchirs; but the patient would conſent to remain no longer in the hoſpital,

* The tranſlator, who cannot but be offended, as well as moſt readers are, with the diſagreeable hiſſing of the word *ſchiruſſes*, and conſidering alſo *ſchirs* as a ſound more natural, and better adapted to the genius of the Engliſh language, heſitated not in his preference, nor ſtrove to recollect authorities in his favour.

firmly perſuaded, as ſhe was, that no medicine whatever could have any effect on ſwellings of ſo large a ſize, and ſo antient a ſtanding.

She was diſmiſſed: But being long accuſtomed to a looſe and abandoned life, ſhe was not ſufficiently cautious in her conduct; ſo that, being caught in the commiſſion of a crime, ſhe was ordered to be confined in a jail.

There ſhe took a continual fever; and thus was again brought to our hoſpital.

Antiphlogiſtic remedies were applied; and ſhe recovered from this new diſorder in a fortnight.

And now ſhe was better pleaſed ſtill to continue in the hoſpital, than to be conducted back to priſon.

Thus an excellent opportunity offered of trying how far the power and virtues of the hemlock would extend.

I applied nothing outwardly in the beginning, in order to diſcover what the inward uſe alone of hemlock could effect againſt ſuch obſtinate ſwellings.

I adminiſtered, morning and evening, four pills, each of which weighed two grains.

In five days time the ſeveral ſwellings were already more moveable; and the large ſwelling on the left ſide of the neck was much ſofter to the touch.

This circumſtance convinced me that hemlock taken inwardly alone was of great efficacy; of much greater, indeed, than the ſtrongeſt preparations of mercury, howſoever applied.

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In order to haſten the cure, however, I ordered the ſeveral ſwellings to be covered with a hemlock-plaiſter, and over this a cataplaſm alſo of the ſame herb; and I increaſed the doſe of the pills.

The tenth day, the ſchir on the left ſide of the neck was conſiderably ſofter and ſmaller than before.

The ſame alteration I perceived in both breaſts.

The reſt of the ſwellings, tho leſs hard, were not diminiſhed in their ſize, and, towards the ſurface, were inflamed and painful.

The ſeventeenth day, the ſwelling in the left part of the neck was now much ſmaller; both breaſts were ſoft and moveable; the other ſchirs began to tend towards ſuppuration.

The patient now ſwallowed ſix pills in the morning, and as many in the evening: each pill contained four grains.

The twenty-fourth day, ſome of the ſchirs were already turned into matter; they were not however laid open by the knife, becauſe the ſkin ſeemed to threaten rupture.

The ſwelling of the neck, and thoſe of the breaſts, were diminiſhed.

On the following days, ſome of the ſwellings burſt, and gave iſſue to a good and plentiful pus; however, the plaſter and cataplaſm were ſtill applied.

The thirty-ſixth day, the ſwelling in ſome places diſappeared, and in ſome parts the ſkin which had burſt began to join; the

ſchirrous ſwellings of the neck and breaſts were diminiſhed two thirds of their former ſize.

I now began to adminiſter five pills four times a day, every pill weighing four grains; nor did I afterwards encreaſe that quantity.

And thus, by the continued application of the plaſter and the cataplaſm of hemlock, and by the uſe of the extract of the ſame herb, this woman was perfectly cured in the ſpace of leſs than three months; her neck and breaſts returned to their natural ſtate; and, from being a moſt dreadful object, ſhe became tolerably handſome and agreeable.

The menſes appeared at proper intervals, and in ſufficient quantity; nor did their preſence interrupt the application of the remedies, which ſhe continued to take without the leaſt inconvenience.

An antiphlogiſtic purgative was adminiſtered to her twice only, during the whole time, when ſhe happened to be coſtive.

The hemlock produced not the leaſt diſorder or diſturbance in her health or conſtitution: her ſtomach remained good, her ſtrength was not diminiſhed, nor did ſhe complain of any pain.

It gave me great joy to find ſuch a rebellious and obſtinate diſorder ſo very eaſily and perfectly cured by the ſole uſe of hemlock.

And as this patient behaved with great decency and piety while ſhe was treated in the hoſpital, and as ſhe promiſed to remain honeſt

neſt for the future, I obtained her pardon and her liberty.

CASE II.

A Woman, ſix and thirty years of age, was brought to our hoſpital on account of a large, hard, and painful ſwelling of her left breaſt.

I found the ſwelling equal to a child's head, hard, unmoveable, and, towards the ſurface, divided into ſeveral ſmaller, ſofter, and more painful lumps or elevations; the veins were diſtended; the left arm was ſwollen, and in ſuch pain, that it could not be moved.

I applied outwardly ſome of the ſofteſt linen, in order to preſerve the parts from being hurt by rubbing; and, as to inward remedies, I ordered to be taken, morning and evening, twelve grains of the extract of hemlock, beſides an infuſion of ground-ivy.

The fourth day after this treatment was begun, the breaſt was ſofter to the touch; but the lumps grew larger, and from them ſome ichorous matter iſſued out; the pains, beſides, were great; and at night an opiate became neceſſary.

The ſeventh day, the ſymptoms being the ſame, I gave, morning and evening, eighteen grains of the extract.

The ninth day, three lumps broke, and from them iſſued a large quantity of dark colored ſtinking matter; the bigneſs of the breaſt,

breaſt, and the acuteneſs of the pains, were much decreaſed.

The eleventh day, fetid ichor came away in plenty; the pain was moderate; the color of the breaſt was reddiſh, nor did any lividneſs appear.

I now gave, morning and evening, a ſcruple of the extract of hemlock.

The fourteenth day, the ulcers diſcharged a very large quantity of ichor.

The breaſt was ſmaller; but the patient's ſtrength was much diminiſhed; her whole body ſhuddered; and ſoon after her pulſe quickened; and ſhe became hot and thirſty.

On this, I decreaſed the doſe of the extract, and adminiſtered only ten grains in the morning, and as much at night; but I ordered, beſides, a dram of the beſt peruvian bark to be taken every three hours in the day.

The ſixteenth day, the ſhudderings were leſs frequent; inſtead of ichor, pus was now diſcharged; the patient was ſtill, however, weak and thirſty: the ſame remedies were continued.

The twenty firſt day, no ſhudderings were now perceived; her ſtrength was encreaſed, and her appetite returned; the pus diſcharged was good, and the breaſt reaſſumed almoſt its natural color: the ſwelling that ſtill remained, was, however, very hard, but not in the leaſt painful.

The ſame treatment was continued ſix days longer; but things perſiſted yet in the ſame ſtate.

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This circumſtance induced me, on the twenty-ſeventh day, to encreaſe again the doſe; and I gave eighteen grains of the hemlock-extract in the morning, and as much at night. I ordered alſo a dram of peruvian bark to be taken twice a day; outwardly I applied a cataplaſm of milk and hemlock; the holes of the breaſt were filled with fine lint, which had been moiſtened in an infuſion of hemlock.

The thirtieth day, the patient recovered ſtrength; the color of her breaſt was natural; the matter in the ulcer was of the right kind; ſhe eat heartily, and ſlept ſoundly. I now ordered no more bark, but returned to the uſe of hemlock alone; I adminiſtered, morning and evening, a ſcruple of the extract, with a few ounces of the infuſion of elder-flowers, and the leaves of ſpeedwell and ground-ivy.

The fiftieth day, the ſize of the breaſt was conſiderably diminiſhed; and the pus was good; but the pain was ſo acute, that ſhe paſſed the nights diſquietly, notwithſtanding the help of opiates.

I obſerved, however, that, after ſuch great pains, a very large quantity of ſerum came away from the ulcers, and that the ſwelling was diminiſhed.

I then ordered a dram of the extract to be taken every day; and the hemlock-fomentation was alſo diligently continued.

On the ſixty-fourth day, the ulcer of the breaſt diſcharg'd ſerum in great quantities; but

the lips of the ulcer, which had been hitherto extremely obdurate, thick, callous, and externally contracted, now began to ſoften, reſolve, and partly to be conſumed by the pus: the patient's ſtrength continued.

I encreaſed the doſe of the extract, and adminiſtered eighty grains of it every day.

The ulcer of the breaſt ſtill continued to diſcharge ferum in very great plenty; no good pus came now away; and yet a fetid ſmell was not perceived.

On the ſeventieth day, the patient complained of a dryneſs in her breaſt, and laboured under a little ſhort cough without ſpitting; the ſize of the breaſt, as well as of the lips of the ulcer, was now much ſmaller; the pain was by fits extremely vehement; the patient became weak, and emitted a very fetid ſmell.

I therefore had again recourſe to the peruvian bark, of which I now preſcribed half an ounce to be taken every day, and half a dram of the hemlock-extract.

I ordered the patient, beſides, to drink plentifully of whey, or of a ſtrong decoction of marſh-mallows root and liquorice.

The borders of the ulcers I covered with hemlock-plaſter; and the ulcer itſelf was waſhed with an infuſion of hemlock, to every pound of which two drams were added of the vinegar of litharge.

The patient's ſtrength returned by degrees; the cough was over; the exceſſive diſcharge of ichor was diminiſhed; and good matter

appeared

appeared again in the ulcer: but the pain was violent again, nor could ſleep be obtained without an opiate.

The eightieth day, the patient was pretty well; the lips of the ulcer were leſſened, moveable, and free from pain; the ulcer of the breaſt was clean; the hardneſs was not ſo great; the pain was little; the ſtrength was tolerable; and the ſtomach good.

I then ordered two ſcruples a day of the hemlock-extract, as well as two drams of peruvian bark, beſides plenty of whey, and an emollient decoction: the external applications were ſtill the ſame.

On the ninetieth day, the ſize of the breaſt was conſiderably leſſened; the lips were of a bright red, and ſoft; and the ulcer diſcharged matter of the right kind.

I then abſtained from the bark, but encreaſed the doſe of the hemlock-extract to an entire dram.

The hundredth day, things wore ſtill a more favorable aſpect; the pus was good; the patient had ſufficient ſtrength, and paſſed the nights very well.

I then preſcribed four ſcruples of the extract; and every thing elſe was carefully continued.

The hundred and fourteenth day, the lips were foul; plenty of ſerum was diſcharged from the ulcer; but the bigneſs of the breaſt was leſſened; the pain was inconſiderable; and the ſtrength was good.

A dram and a half a day was now adminiſtered of the extract; and a cataplaſm of hemlock applied all over the ulcer and the lips.

In four days time, hard broad cores came away from the lips; the ulcer diſcharged a vaſt quantity of ichor; in conſequence of which the ſwelling of the breaſt and lips was almoſt ſuddenly diminiſhed.

But at this time, the patient became again extremely weak; a little fever appeared anew, which was often attended with ſhiverings.

Upon this, I preſcribed half an ounce a day of peruvian bark, as alſo a ſcruple of hemlock-extract; I applied to the lips a plaſter of the ſame plant; and the ulcers were filled with lint, which had been ſteeped in a ſlight infuſion of hemlock and vinegar of litharge; plenty of whey was ordered to be drank, together with a decoction of marſh-mallows root and liquorice.

The hundred and thirtieth day, a little ſerum was diſcharged from the ulcer; but there was plenty of good pus; the lips were ſmall, reddiſh, without pain; and the ſtrength was ſomewhat recovered.

However, I continued the ſame doſe of the bark; that of the extract I encreaſed to half a dram; the ſame external remedies were ſtill applied.

The hundred and thirty-ſixth day, every thing was in a more favorable ſtate: there

was

was no complaint of weakneſs by day, nor of reſtleſſneſs in the night.

I now thought proper to decreaſe the doſe of the peruvian bark, to two drams a day; that of the extract I augmented to an entire dram every day, together with plenty of whey: the outward applications were continued.

The hundred and forty-ſecond day, the patient was much better; the lips were quite ſoftened; and nothing but a ſpongy ſubſtance ſeemed to remain.

I then forbore from ordering the bark, relying on the hemlock and whey, together with the external remedies as before.

The hundred and fiftieth day, the ſwellings being ſtill leſs, and every way in a more favorable condition, the pus good, and the ſtrength ſufficient, I gave four ſcruples a day of the extract; and outwardly I applied a cataplaſm of hemlock alone.

The hundred and ſixtieth day, the lips were very ſmall, indeed ſcarce more than the common thickneſs of the ſkin; the hardneſs almoſt gone; the ſtrength pretty well recovered; and hardly any pain.

I now ordered daily a dram and a half of the extract: a cataplaſm by day, and a plaſter during the night, of hemlock, were alſo applied.

The ulcer was quite ſmooth by the hundred and ſeventieth day; all ſwelling, all hardneſs, were now no more; and the lips were utterly conſumed.

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The cataplaſm of hemlock was ſtill applied for the ſpace of three days, and the ſame doſe of the extract was continued.

In this ſituation, all hardneſs being ſoftened, and a conſiderable quantity of ſerum diſcharging from the ulcer, however clean, I contented myſelf with applying outwardly ſome lint ſteeped in a very weak infuſion of hemlock; inwardly, indeed, I ordered half a dram of bark to be taken three times a day, and ſix grains of the hemlock-extract every morning and evening, together with large and frequent draughts of whey.

The glands of the arm-pits, which were alſo become ſchirrous, returned to the natural ſtate almoſt at the ſame time; three lumps only remained, each of which was near the bigneſs of a pea.

The arm, which could not ſtir without exquiſite pain, was become now moveable; and the patient's ſtrength was tolerably recovered.

The ſixth day, a white cuticle or thin ſkin began to appear from the borders of the ulcer, which, extending itſelf gradually towards the centre, promiſed a re-union of the ulcer.

The fourteenth day, by the continuation of the ſame inward remedies and external applications, the ulcer was almoſt cloſed with this thin ſkin; which, however, broke again here and there; and from the opening a ſharp ſerous humour was diſcharged.

I therefore preſcribed a purgative, compoſed of half a dram of rhubarb, eight grains

of

of ſcammony, and fifteen grains of polychreſt ſalt.

The patient was worked ſix times, and found herſelf very well.

Two days afterwards, I ordered a-new the former doſe of peruvian bark and hemlock-extract; and outwardly was applied a very weak infuſion of hemlock as before.

The new ſkin was now become ſtronger and more firm; which, however, was ſtill corroded in many places by the acrid matter that diſcharged itſelf from the ulcer.

On this account the former purge was again repeated, after an interval of eight days.

I again returned to the bark and extract in the ſame doſes; but externally I applied ſome nutritive ointment.

In twenty days the cicatrice was firm; no trace of the breaſt remained.

So that all who ſaw this woman afterwards ſuppoſed her breaſt to have been cut off.

I then entirely ceaſed from ordering any remedies; and I kept the woman a fortnight in the hoſpital, in order to perceive whether the diſorder would return.

But ſhe ſtill continued to move her arm with the greateſt eaſe; and the ulcer remained perfectly healed.

I then preſcribed the ſame purgative as before; and in three days time ſhe was diſmiſſed, entirely cured.

When ſhe came to return me thanks, ſhe deſired leave to call upon me in caſe any alteration ſhould happen in her breaſt. I willingly

ly granted her requeſt; and there are now ſix months elapſed, during which ſhe has not returned.

Mr. Haffner, who is ſurgeon to my hoſpital, aſſiſted this woman with great diligence, attention, and experience; and, by his judicious application of the external remedies according to the ſymptoms that ſucceſſively appeared, he contributed conſiderably towards her recovery and cure.

CASE III.

A Man of ſeven and twenty years of age, had, for a great while paſt, a foul cancerous ulcer in his left ſide, towards the hip: this ulcer was continually ſpreading wide and deep, and it begun already to attack the vertebræ of the lumbs; beſides, cancerous funguſſes were ſhooting out in many places.

After ſeveral of the beſt ſurgeons had employed ſome of the moſt efficacious remedies to no purpoſe, he came at length to our hoſpital.

The learned Surgeon Haffner firſt endeavored by the mildeſt medicines, afterwards with cauſtics, and finally by fire and with the knife, to extract the fungous cancer, and to clean and heal the ulcer.

I preſcribed, for my part, the remedies which I thought moſt likely to ſweeten the maſs of blood.

This treatment now and then appeared, for a day or two, to be of ſome uſe; but the evil returned

returned again immediately with the former, and ſometimes even with augmented violence. We found, therefore, that all ſuch attempts were vain.

The peruvian bark, which elſewhere produces ſuch wonderful effects in putrid ulcers, when given in large doſes, and for a long continuance, in the preſent caſe, however, did not the leaſt ſervice.

Mr. Haffner applied, therefore, outwardly a cataplaſm of hemlock to the part affected; and I preſcribed to the patient nine grains of the extract of hemlock to be taken in the morning, and as much at night, together with a plentiful decoction of barley, or large draughts of whey.

Hitherto the patient was emaciated, feeble, and cachectic; and, about evening, had ſhiverings, and a fever, together with a copious and weakening perſpiration.

But now, in a few days time, he began to have a ſtomach, and to ſleep with eaſe. Good pus alſo was diſcovered in the ulcer.

The eighth day, I encreaſed the doſe of the extract to half a dram; and the cataplaſm was carefully renewed.

The ulcer was clean by the twelfth day; the cancerous funguſſes were moveable, flaccid, entirely free from pain; and ſome bony fragments were ſeparated from the vertebræ.

By the ſeventeenth day, the evening ſhiverings were no more obſerved; the patient ſlept quietly, without ſweating; his ſtrength was encreaſing daily; the matter in the ulcer was of the right kind; and, from the funguſſes

about the borders of the ulcer, a conſiderable quantity of ſerum was diſcharged.

The twentieth day, ſeveral ſmall pieces or grains of bone were ſeparated from the vertebræ which had been corroded: a cicatrice began to be formed here and there in the ulcer: the funguſſes were flaccid, and entirely void of pain; but as they were too ſlowly conſumed, and conſequently hindered the healing of the ulcer, Mr. Haffner extracted them with the knife.

The patient felt no pain from the operation. The ſame internal and external remedies were continued.

On the twenty-fifth day, a cuticle appeared from every part of the borders of the ulcer; and, by this means, the ulcer began to heal; the color was of a bright red; the pus was of the right kind, and not in too great quantity.

The patient was now no longer weak; his ſtomach was good; he ſlept ſoundly; and his body was open.

The inward remedies and external applications were continued.

The thirtieth day, the ulcer was already almoſt cloſed; nor did any fungus afterwards appear. The patient was extremely well.

The fortieth day, the ulcer had a firm cicatrice; and this man was, to all appearance, cured.

However, for fourteen days, I ordered to be taken, morning and evening, ſix grains of the hemlock-extract, together with a conſiderable

derable quantity of whey; that by this means every acrid and cancerous remains might be ſeparated from the maſs of blood.

I afterwards preſcribed a purge; and the man was diſmiſſed entirely cured.

CASE IV.

A Woman, thirty-ſix years old, had for ſome years paſt a foul ulcer in her leg: by the application of ſeveral external and internal remedies, the ulcer was ſometimes almoſt cured; but when it was near being quite healed, it broke out again. A ſharp ichor was diſcharged in great quantities, accompanied alſo with proud fleſh.

The uſe of a great many different baths ſeemed ſometimes to promiſe good effects; but the evil immediately returned with violence.

In our hoſpital many remedies were alſo tried, to correct the ſharpneſs of the blood, to eat away the proud fleſh, and to heal the ulcer.

But in none of our trials did we meet ſucceſs.

For tho the ulcer was ſometimes entirely cloſed for a day or two, yet no firm cicatrice was formed; ſo that an itching was ſoon felt again, an ichorous humor came away, the proud fleſh ſprung up afreſh, and the ulcer grew worſe and worſe.

The infuſion alone of hemlock was therefore outwardly applied, as an external fomentation; and, during the night, the ulcer was

covered with a plaſter of the ſame plant. Inwardly nothing was adminiſtered but whey.

It happened upon this, that the proud fleſh ſeparated of itſelf; and in twenty days after, the ulcer was cloſed with a very firm cicatrice; and the foot was moved with the greateſt eaſe.

A purgative was then given; and the woman was permitted to remain eight days longer in the hoſpital, without taking any medicines. The ulcer ſtill appeared perfectly healed; and ſhe was thereupon diſmiſſed.

CASE V.

A Man, of ſixty-two years of age, had a foul and antient ulcer in the right ſide of the lower belly, which was a ſpan in length, and ſeven inches broad; and ſo deep, that it almoſt penetrated into the cavity of the abdomen.

On the right ſide of the breaſt there was an ulcer almoſt equally large, which diſcharged a large quantity of ſharp ſtinking ſerum, and even attacked the ribs.

After having purged the patient, a fomentation of hemlock was applied to each of the ulcers.

As this man was alſo afflicted with a cough, a decoction was preſcribed for him of the root and leaves of marſh-mallows, to which was added ſimple oxymel and diaphoretic antimony without being waſhed.

In a few days both the ulcers were much cleaner; the matter became of the right kind; and

and the patient, who had been hitherto very weak, ſeemed to recover ſtrength.

About the tenth day, ſeveral fragments were ſeparated from the carious ribs; and a thin ſkin began to grow out from the borders of the ulcer.

The ulcer of the lower belly became leſs deep; and it diſcharged good pus.

The fourteenth day, I ordered again a purge; and afterwards continued the decoction of marſh mellows.

The ſeventeenth day, both ulcers were much cleaner, and leſs extended. Several fragments were ſeparated from the ribs.

The thirtieth day, the ulcer of the breaſt was cloſed, and the cough was almoſt entirely gone; but the ulcer of the lower belly was ſtill of a conſiderable ſize.

This one, however, was alſo healed, by the ſole uſe of hemlock, about the fiftieth day.

The old man was purged once more, and then diſmiſſed from the hoſpital, perfectly cured.

He then informed us, that he had been afflicted with theſe ulcers for ten years paſt; that he ſpent moſt of his ſubſtance in order to obtain a cure; that the numberleſs remedies he tried had no effect; and that at laſt, his ſtrength and his hopes exhauſted, he came to us with no other intent than to finiſh his days in the hoſpital.

CASE VI.

A Woman, twenty-eight years of age, had her left breaſt for four years paſt much encreaſed in ſize, and equal in hardneſs to a ſtone.

On any violent alteration of the weather, ſhe felt pains in this hard ſwelling; which always, however, ceaſed of their own accord: and while the color of her breaſt remained in its natural ſtate, and that the ſwelling did not obſtruct the motion of her arm, ſhe applied no remedy, nor did ſhe ſhew her breaſt to any perſon.

At length, about the end of the month of February, 1760, ſhe had an acute diſorder; on account of which ſhe was brought to our hoſpital.

In about ſix and twenty days, ſhe began to recover pretty well from this new diſtemper.

But as ſhe got out of bed, and walked about, ſhe felt a continual, gnawing, ſhooting pain in her right breaſt; but not being extremely violent, ſhe concealed it for ſeveral days.

At laſt, the great acuteneſs of the pain took away her reſt; ſhe loſt her appetite, and ſtrength at the ſame time. She then ſhewed her breaſt to Mr. Haffner, who gave me notice of it.

We found it extremely hard, of a purple color, mixed with black and livid ſtreaks; the arm of the ſame ſide was alſo ſwollen; ſhe continued to feel gnawing, violent, ſhooting pains; her veins were blackiſh, and diſtended.

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The pulſe was ſwift and ſmall; the heart was in continual palpitation.

We immediately applied a fomentation of hemlock to her breaſt; and we ordered to be taken inwardly a nitrous anodyne emulſion.

The ſame night the pain was abated; and ſhe ſlept tolerably quiet for about three hours.

When ſhe awoke, the violence of the pain again returned; and the uſe of the fomentation had hitherto no effect upon the breaſt.

A gliſter was adminiſtered, in order to open her body; and the anodyne nitrous emulſion was afterwards continued.

The next night was paſſed much more quietly; the pains of the breaſt ſeemed much abated. There was as yet, however, no alteration made in the ſize, hardneſs, or color of the ſwelling.

The third day, the pulſe being found tolerably good, eight grains were given in the morning, and eight at night, of the hemlock-extract; drinking after it a few ounces of the decoction of marſh-mallows.

Late in the evening ſhe took an opiate, in order to paſs a quiet night.

This remedy had its deſired effect; and the patient was much recovered by ſleep.

In the morning the pain was inconſiderable; the breaſt was ſoft, and better bore to be roughly handled.

The arm however, could not yet be moved, on account of the ſwelling and the pain.

By the twelfth day, there were now no longer any black or livid ſtreaks to be obſerved;

ved; the diſtended veins were almoſt contracted to their natural dimenſions; the pains were few; and the ſwelling of the arm likewiſe was diminiſhed.

Ten grains were then adminiſtered of the extract, morning and evening; the hemlock-fomentation was alſo carefully applied: but the opiate at night was omitted, as the patient, being leſs racked with pain, began naturally to recover her reſt.

The twentieth day, the breaſt had very near its natural color; but the hardneſs ſtill ſubſiſted the ſame; nor did the breaſt become moveable, ſeeming rather firmly rooted. The ſwelling of the arm decreaſed; and the patient could move her hand and fingers without pain.

I then preſcribed thirty-two grains a day of the extract.

The fomentation was continued; and, during the night, the breaſt was covered with a plaſter of hemlock.

The twenty-third day, the breaſt grew red again; the pains were violent, and began from the time the plaſter was applied at night.

The plaſter was therefore removed; the extract and fomentation were alone employed. In the evening I gave an opiate, in order to procure a good night's reſt.

The thirtieth day, the breaſt recovered once more its natural color; the pains were inconſiderable.

I now ordered forty grains to be taken daily of the extract; and the fomentation was continued.

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The fortieth day, the ſwelling of the arm was entirely gone, and it could be moved tolerably well; the breaſt was ſmaller, ſofter, and more moveable.

Things were ſtill grown better in the breaſt by the fiftieth day; but the woman took a diſguſt for victuals, and complained of a bitterneſs in her mouth; her legs were ſomewhat ſwollen. This induced me to permit her abſtaining from the hemlock-extract for ſome days; and I ordered her to drink plentifully of the infuſion of elder flowers: the fomentation was ſtill applied.

On the fifty-fourth day, I preſcribed a purge of rhubarb, a little ſcammony, and polychreſt ſalt.

She was worked four times; and the next day her appetite returned; the ſwelling of the legs almoſt diſappeared; the breaſt was moveable, nor did the touching it give the patient pain; only ſome vague ſhooting ſtitches tormented her by fits. I ordered her legs to be fumigated with weak aromatics; and to the breaſt I took care that the hemlock-fomentation ſhould be diligently applied.

The ſixtieth day, as the patient was prodigiouſly recovered, her legs reſtored to the natural ſtate, and her ſtomach good, I again preſcribed, morning and evening, ſix grains of the extract of hemlock; together with plenty of the infuſion of elder flowers.

The ſixty-ſixth day, the breaſt ſeemed divided into ſeveral leſſer lumps; but continued without pain.

I then ordered, morning and evening, ten grains of the extract; and the fomentation to be continued.

The eightieth day, the breaſt was very ſmall; the arm could be moved without the leaſt uneaſineſs: the patient was ſtrong, had a good ſtomach, and ſlept well.

The ninety-firſt day, a little hardneſs ſtill ſubſiſted in the breaſt, which was eaſily moved up and down; the woman, however, grew impatient at the conſtant application of the hemlock-fomentation; nor could ſhe any longer bear the diſagreeable ſmell that proceeded from it; the fomentation was therefore removed, and a plaſter of hemlock was applied in its room: morning and evening, fifteen grains were now adminiſtered of the extract of the ſame plant.

The plaſter gave no pain; all things were daily growing better; and the hundred and twenty-fifth day, the breaſt was flaccid, hanging down, nor could the leaſt hardneſs be perceived.

This woman, then departed from the hoſpital. I ordered her, however, to take hemlock-pills, for ſome time yet, in ſmall doſes, that by this means the diſorder might not ſo eaſily return.

CASE VII.

A Virgin, twenty-one years of age, had an open cancer in her left breaſt; ſhe coughed frequently beſides, and complained of a continual burning heat, and a gnawing pain in her left ſide.

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The whole maſs of blood was corrupted; the patient was alſo troubled with the itch, and was quite emaciated. In the evenings ſhe had ſhudderings, afterwards heat, and, laſtly, fell into a fetid ſweat.

The ulcer diſcharged large quantities of ſtinking ichor.

In theſe worſt of circumſtances I tried the hemlock; and immediately preſcribed eight grains of the extract to be taken every morning, and as much at night; outwardly, a fomentation of the ſame plant was alſo applied. The patient was ordered, beſides, to drink plentifully of whey, or milk diluted with a double quantity of water.

In twelve days time, ſhe was much better; ſhe coughed leſs; her evening complaints, and her nocturnal ſweats, were almoſt gone; her ſtrength was encreaſed; a thin pus appeared in the cancerous ulcer; the diſcharge of ichor was diminiſhed; nor was any bad ſmell perceived.

But in her ſide, the burning heat and gnawing pain ſtill ſubſiſted.

I then ordered eight grains of the extract to be taken four times a day; continuing likewiſe the other remedies.

The thirtieth day, the ſize of the breaſt was conſiderably diminiſhed; nor did the patient complain of weakneſs. The ulcer was clean; the appetite excellent; but on account of the continual burning heat under the breaſt, an opiate was neceſſary to render her ſleep quiet and undiſturbed.

The itch began to dry away, and the patient was able to be out of bed.

I now adminiſtered daily two ſcruples of the extract.

The forty-ſixth day, the patient was pretty well; the ſize of the breaſt was ſmaller; and the ulcer alſo was diminiſhed.

The burning heat and gnawing pain ſtill perſiſted in the left ſide; tho now and then by fits it was very inconſiderable.

The ſixtieth day, the hardneſs of the breaſt was almoſt gone; the ulcer was much ſmaller, and very clean.

I then preſcribed a dram daily of the extract: the reſt of the treatment to remain the ſame.

The eightieth day, all hardneſs diſappeared; and the ulcer was almoſt cloſed.

The heat and pain of her ſide were by fits extremely violent; nor did ſhe always paſs the night without reſtleſſneſs and anxiety.

However, ſhe had ſtrength; the itch was entirely gone; her countenance recovered very near its former color; but yet ſhe remained emaciated.

The eighty-fourth day, the ulcer was healed; the patient got out of bed; walked about; had a good ſtomach; and ſometimes ſlept very well without an opiate.

The menſes then appeared, which for five months before had ceaſed to flow.

The patient was in great ſpirits; and hoped with reaſon, that the heat and pain of her ſide would probably now ceaſe, as they were

were firſt felt on the ſtoppage of the menſes.

The menſes continued two days to flow; the third, they ſtopped; and then the heat, as well as the gnawing pain in the left ſide, was immediately encreaſed; and the patient grew worſe.

The fourth day, a little purple lump appeared under the breaſt, and gave great pain.

Mr. Haffner, in order to abate the pain, applied the moſt emollient cataplaſm poſſible, to the part affected.

But as the patient was extremely thirſty, had a ſtrong fever, and a hard pulſe, ſhe was let blood, and reſolving antiphlogiſtic decoctions were adminiſtered.

This gave her ſome little eaſe.

The ſixth day, the lump broke, and diſcharged a conſiderable quantity of the ſharpeſt ichor.

The ſurgeon, having now conveyed his probe through the opening, found out the ſinus, which extended under the pectoral muſcle almoſt to the ſuperior border of the breaſt, where the rib alſo was attacked; ſo that, as ſoon as the patient had ſufficient ſtrength, the ſurgeon cut away the ſinus and the parts which covered it, that he might diſcover how far the rib was eaten away.

This operation being made, the patient had a fainting fit of a ſhort duration; the wound was therefore covered, and every thing poſtponed to the following day.

In the evening, the fever was very ſtrong; and the pain conſiderable. Some antiphlogiſtic

giſtic remedies, and anoydne emulſions, were given to the patient, who paſſed the night tolerably well.

Two days after the operation, Mr. Haffner, having opened the wound, found ſeveral of the ribs attacked; and diſcovered a ſecond opening which penetrated into the cavity of the thorax, and thro which, when the patient coughed, a fetid ichor was diſcharged.

A decoction of barley, with a little honey of roſes, was injected into the cavity of the thorax, in order to cleanſe the ulcer, and that a proper ſeparation might be made of what was corrupt from what was ſound.

The nitrous anodyne emulſions were continued; and the patient was pretty well.

But every evening ſhe had a little fever, and ſweated in the night.

The fifth day, as the opening into the cavity of the thorax was extremely ſmall, Mr. Haffner dilated it, that whatever was within ſide might the more eaſily be waſhed away and diſcharged.

The eighth day, ſome fragments of bones came from the wound after the injection; from whence it was evident, that the ribs were carious alſo withinſide.

I therefore preſcribed the peruvian bark in plenty; beſides a decoction of the woods, and cow's milk.

We then tried injections which were more detergent and balſamic; but theſe the patient could not bear: the fever encreaſed; the pain

grew

grew vehement; and the matter which came from the wound ſtunk extremely.

We therefore returned to the decoction of barley, with honey; which was now the only injection employed.

Some fragments of bones were ſoon ſeparated; which, after a violent cough, were diſcharged thro the opening, together with a large quantity of ſtinking ichor.

Nevertheleſs, the heat and gnawing pain were not in the leaſt abated, but rather extended forward: the patient, notwithſtanding the conſiderable doſes which ſhe took daily of peruvian bark, was ſtill very weak; and the evening fever was augmented.

After long trials, when we found the remedies hitherto applied productive of very little effect, Mr. Haffner and I at length concluded to inject the infuſion of hemlock; and to join the extract of the ſame plant to the peruvian bark.

The next day, the matter coming from the inſide of the thorax was not now ſo fetid; and the heat and pain were ſomewhat decreaſed.

In a few days the patient's ſtrength and appetite ſeemed to encreaſe; and ſhe ſlept pretty quietly during the night.

Half an ounce of peruvian bark, and a ſcruple of the extract of hemlock, were adminiſtered to her daily; beſides plenty of whey.

In the beginning, the infuſion of hemlock for the injection was purpoſely made weak; but as it neither irritated the lungs, nor added

ed any uneaſineſs, and as we found it beſides of conſiderable uſe, we ordered it for the future to be ſtronger.

In the ſpace of a fortnight, many fragments of bones were diſcharged from the cavity of the thorax, together with a thin purulent matter.

The patient was now much better; ſhe was able to remain out of bed, and almoſt always to ſleep without the aſſiſtance of an opiate.

However, by degrees ſhe could no longer bear ſo large a doſe of the peruvian bark; ſo that afterwards I gave her every day half a dram of the hemlock-extract, and two drams only of the bark of peru.

By the means of theſe remedies, by drinking plentifully of whey, and by the injection twice a day of a ſtrong infuſion of hemlock, we preſerved this woman's life two months and a half; and now we even entertained ſome glimmering hopes of bringing about a cure.

It happened, however, that ſhe then took a pleuriſy of the worſt kind, which very nearly threatened death.

Nevertheleſs, by the care of the learned Doctor Collin, who attended then the hoſpital, and ordered proper bleedings, cataplaſms, and other excellent remedies, the pleuretic pain ceaſed at length, and the diſorder was happily terminated by ſpitting.

The patient now began to recover ſome little ſtrength: the matter, however, which

was

was discharged from the cavity of the thorax, was very fetid and ichorous.

Neither the peruvian bark, nor the hemlock-extract, nor the infusion of the same plant, was now of any service; the evening fever of the worst kind was again returned; and the nocturnal sweats so reduced the patient, that in seven weeks time she became quite emaciated, and died.

By the dissection, we found the pleura in the left cavity of the breast almost consumed, and several of the ribs divided into thin carious plates.

The lungs on the left side were also in many places eaten away.

Certainly, if this ulcer had been on the outward surface of the breast, where the surgical aid might be put in practice, where proper fomentations might retard the progress of the evil, and help the separation of what was carious, this patient would have been perfectly cured of the worst of cancers, and the most fetid ulcer.

A man, of three and twenty, was dying of an empyema in the left cavity of his breast. Mr. Haffner, on my persuasion, gave a passage, by the means of a large wound, to about five pounds and a half weight of thin fetid matter.

It was a bold and doubtful undertaking; but as the patient, being almost suffocated, was on the brink of death, it was allowable to make any attempt; for we have observed, that by a hazardous operation, the lives of

men are often rendered longer, and more comfortable.

The matter being diſcharged, the patient was extremely ill; his extremities were cold; his pulſe could no longer be perceived; his countenance was ſunk; and his face was covered with a thick, cold, and clammy ſweat.

We regretted the bad event of the operation; but neglected nothing, notwithſtanding, which we ſtill thought could any way be of ſervice to the patient.

His forehead, noſe, and temples, were rubbed all over with ſpirit of hartſhorn; we poured into his mouth about an ounce of auſtrian wine, with ſix drops of the ſpirit of hartſhorn: he then ſeemed ſomewhat to recover; and a trembling pulſe was now perceivable in the wriſt.

He ſoon began to open his eyes and breathe.

We then gave him ſome ounces of broth, and diſpoſed him afterwards to reſt.

But he ſtill remained in anxiety; and, in a quarter of an hour, he vomited matter of a brown ruſty color; and now we ſuppoſed a ſecond time that he was juſt dying.

The vomiting, however, having ceaſed by a paregoric remedy, a light ſleep enſued.

Which, tho neither undiſturbed, nor of a long continuance, contributed, however, ſomewhat towards recovering the patient.

The next day, he began to ſpeak, and patiently received whatever was offered to him.

Mr. Haffner waſhed the cavity of the breaſt with a decoction of barley and honey

of

of roſes; and I preſcribed the remedies which the circumſtances indicated to be neceſſary.

In four days time, the patient had already gained ſufficient force to move himſelf about without fainting away.

Mr. Haffner penetrated with his probe into the breaſt; and perceiving many of the ribs to be carious, he tried ſeveral detergent, balſamic, and vulnerary injections; but found none more uſeful than the infuſion of hemlock, which renders the matter of a right kind.

The patient recovered ſtrength, and his appetite returned.

The nocturnal ſweats and evening fever were mitigated by the aſſiſtance of proper remedies; but could not be made to diſappear entirely.

We could never hope a perfect cure; but it was enough that we reſcued a man by a bold operation from the jaws of death, that we lengthened the number of his days, and rendered theſe days more comfortable to him.

By injections of a ſtrong infuſion of hemlock, and by balſamic, anodyne remedies taken inwardly, together with a milk diet, we found means to preſerve this man in a tolerable ſtate near ſeven months: but autumn then approaching, he began to cough conſiderably again; the evening fever encreaſed; and in one and thirty days he departed this life.

The lungs were found in great meaſure eaten away; and the ribs were carious.

Wonderful! that a ſtrong infuſion of hemlock injected into the cavity of the thorax, and on the naked lungs, was productive of no anxieties or diſturbance.

It appears, therefore, that the qualities of the hemlock are not ſo dreadful.

I have inſerted this man's hiſtory here, on account of its ſimilarity with the foregoing caſe.

CASE VIII.

A Man, twenty-ſeven years old, had, for ſix years paſt, a lump under the roof of his tongue, which ſometimes was very painful to him, and hindered him from ſwallowing without difficulty; ſometimes alſo it gave him no kind of pain.

This lump gradually encreaſed to the bigneſs of a filberd; it was now entirely livid, and conſtantly attended with exceſſive pain.

At laſt it broke; and a moſt ſharp, fetid ichor was diſcharged; it became a foul and extenſive ulcer.

He now found great difficulty in ſwallowing.

Some phyſicians and ſurgeons thought the ulcer was venereal, and treated him accordingly.

Several decoctions, various purges mixed with mercury, and at laſt, a ſolution of corroſive ſublimate in corn ſpirits, were adminiſtered for a conſiderable time, in vain: the diſorder even was augmented.

Finally, the wretch was quite emaciated

by

by a salivation, which did him not the least service.

These sovereign remedies having had no success, the man was abandoned to his fate; and they gave him a certificate that he could not be cured, and that he ought to be admitted into the house of the incurables.

Nevertheless, the patient sought every where for succour; he knocked at almost every surgeon's door, and was dismissed from most without the least relief.

At length he went to Mr. Haffner, surgeon of my hospital; who, having considered well the case, immediately thought that the hemlock should be administered to this patient.

So that the next day, he shewed this man to me, on my arrival at the hospital.

I took care to have a bed made ready for him, and I kept him in the house.

He was however, at this time, entirely emaciated; he had shiverings in the evenings, and afterwards heat; finally, he fell into a profuse sweat; and his sleep was disturbed and uneasy.

A very foul ulcer almost eat away the whole root of his tongue; many fungous excrescences grew out from the center and borders of the ulcer; all of which were also exulcerated, and discharged a most fetid ichor.

The pain was continually excruciating; it was almost impossible for him to swallow; the ulcer became wider and deeper every day; the patient could no longer speak distinctly.

The

The palate, and almonds of the ears, and all the throat, were now affected; we perceived pretty deep eroſions which began to diſcharge an acrid humor.

The patient coughed now more frequently, and complained of a conſtant pricking heat down from the throat to the ſtomach.

From his mouth proceeded a moſt horrid ſmell, which often created in the aſſiſtants a nauſea and a horror.

The ſituation of this patient certainly deſerved pity.

The learned Doctor Collin, who then attended the hoſpital with me, ſaw alſo this poor man; we were in great doubt whether the hemlock could be of any uſe in ſo inveterate a caſe.

There remained, however, no other remedy which had not been already tried upon him.

The firſt indication was cleaning the foul ulcer.

I therefore deſired Mr. Haffner to inject, by the help of a ſyringe, ſeveral times a day, an infuſion of hemlock, with honey of roſes, gently down the throat, and on the ulcer; in order that the filth and ſharp matter ſhould thus be waſhed away.

Internally, I ordered the following mixture:

Take of the extract of hemlock, ten grains,
of the mucilage of gum dragon, half a dram,
of ſyrup of poppies, one ounce,
of elder-flower water, five ounces:

Let

Let a mixture be made, of which the patient is to take a ſpoonful every two hours.

His common drink was whey; and his victuals conſiſted in broth with bread in it, panado, pearl barley, &c.

The patient ſlept the firſt night much better than uſual.

The next day, the ulcer was leſs fetid and leſs foul.

But the difficulty of ſpeaking, and of ſwallowing, remained equally great.

The ſame external and internal remedies were continued.

The third day, the heat in the throat, and all along to the ſtomach, was greatly abated; the ulcer was much cleaner; nor was there hardly any bad ſmell perceived.

I ſtill repeated the preceding mixture, encreaſing only the quantity of the extract, which I doubled.

The ſixth day, he was already able to ſwallow ſolid meat without much pain; the cancerous ulcer was tolerably clean; a very ſlight cicatrice began already to be formed on the ulcers of the throat; and very little heat was obſerved in the paſſage to the ſtomach.

The ſame remedies were continued.

The patient had ſcarce any ſhiverings the evening of the eleventh day; little heat was felt; and the nocturnal ſweats almoſt entirely ceaſed.

The cancerous ulcer now diſcharged pus inſtead of ichor; nor was there much pain felt

felt in ſwallowing ſolid victuals; and the fetid ſmell perceived, was extremely ſlight. The patient was able to ſpeak much more diſtinctly; his ſtrength was greatly augmented, and his appetite was good; ſeveral of the ulcers of the throat were now cloſed; ſo that the heat at preſent felt was very moderate.

The ſame medicines were continued.

The fifteenth day, the cancerous ulcer was of the beſt color; the fungous excreſcences were ſmaller, and ceaſed to diſcharge ichor any longer; from the circumference of the ulcer a very thin and white little ſkin began to appear, which gave us the firſt hopes we entertained of bringing about a cure, and ſhewed that bounds were fixed to the progreſs of the cancer.

The throat was healed; the heat which had been felt in the paſſage to the ſtomach, was now no more; the patient recovered ſtrength; the ſymptoms grew not worſe towards evening; nor did he ſweat in the night.

I then adminiſtered eight pills, of two grains each, of the extract of hemlock, every morning, and as many in the evening; ordering, at the ſame time, a large quantity of whey to be drank after it; the injections on the ulcer were continued.

The twentieth day, every thing wore ſtill a better aſpect; the ulcer began to leſſen conſiderably; many of the fungous excreſcences came away of their own accord; the bad ſmell was entirely gone; and pus was ſubſtituted to ichor.

The patient's reſt was good; his ſtrength encreaſed; and his appetite excellent. The

The thirtieth day, the ulcer was tolerably clean; ſeveral of the excreſcences were already ſeparated; and thoſe that ſtill remained, were flaccid, pale, and could bear being touched without creating uneaſineſs; and the patient drank pure wine without feeling in the ulcer any pain.

I then preſcribed two ſcruples a day of the extract, beſides plenty of whey; and the ulcer was waſhed ſeveral times in the day with an infuſion of hemlock.

The thirty-fourth day, the patient grew vaſtly hungry, and ſwallowed every thing that was offered to him, without chewing it ſufficiently.

Hence his ſtomach ſoon grew overloaded; and the next day he had a nauſea, ſhuddering, a continual endeavor to vomit, an uneaſineſs about the pit of the ſtomach, a giddineſs in the head, a trembling motion of the lower lip, great heat, a pulſe unequal in ſtrength as well as ſwiftneſs, a ſhort and difficult breathing, a ſwelled face, and a livid countenance.

I was much grieved to ſee our hopes of cure thus ſo much diminiſhed, and the patient put into the utmoſt danger of his life.

The indication was extremely urgent to free the ſtomach from its load; I therefore gave twenty grains of ipecacuana root, and one grain of tartar emetic.

This doſe was ſcarce adminiſtered when the patient began to vomit crude, undigeſted matter. I aſſiſted the operation of the powder, by giving plentiful draughts of warm water.

The victuals which had been ſo ravenouſly ſwallowed were thus caſt up in ſix repeated vo-

mitings, together with a yellow ſerum that had an acid ſmell.

After the vomit had finiſhed its effect, the bad ſymptoms almoſt all diſappeared. The patient was nouriſhed that day with nothing but weak broth; and at night he took an anodyne.

The night was paſſed in quiet.

In the morning the pulſe was even, ſlow, and ſmall; nor did the patient complain of any thing beſides weakneſs.

The ulcer was now filled again with filth, and gave greater pain; however, he could ſwallow ſtill without much uneaſineſs. The ulcers were continued to be waſhed by a very gentle injection ſeveral times a day of the infuſion only of hemlock mixed with honey of roſes.

By a pleaſant julep, a proper diet, a little wine, and an opiate in the evening, I endeavored to recover ſomewhat the ſtrength of the patient.

The thirty-ninth day, he was tolerably well, and now deſired himſelf, that the hemlock-pills ſhould be adminiſtered to him.

I then preſcribed two ſcruples of the extract every day, together with plenty of whey; and I allowed a little wine to be drank at dinner. Things now daily wore a better aſpect, and the ulcer afforded the ſtrongeſt hopes of cure.

As every thing now proceeded according to our wiſhes, I did not afterwards encreaſe the doſe of the extract. Gentle injections of the infuſion of hemlock alone upon the ulcer were carefully repeated ſeveral times a day.

The fiftieth day, a few fungous, flaccid, hanging excreſcences ſtill remained, which retarded the healing of the ulcer.

Theſe Mr. Haffner with the ſciſſars cut away without cauſing the patient any pain; nor did any blood flow from the wounds he made.

The injections were diligently continued, which procured great eaſe and ſuccour to the patient.

He now could ſpeak with the greateſt freedom, and ſwallow without uneaſineſs; he recovered his ſtrength, his appetite, and reſt; his body was open, and his urine plentiful, and well colored.

The ſame remedies were continued; and the ſixty-eighth day, a cicatrice was formed upon the ulcer.

The injections were now ſtopped; but the extract of hemlock was ſtill continued in the ſame doſe for a fortnight longer.

But when we found the cicatrice perfectly firm, and the man every way in entire health, we gradually laid aſide the adminiſtration of any remedies; we allowed him to go into the open air, and to eat thoſe things to which he had been accuſtomed.

We retained him, however, perfectly recovered as he was, a month longer in the hoſpital.

At length he himſelf petitioned to be diſmiſſed.

Dr. Collin viſited this patient with me the whole time, and obſerved the progreſs of the cure.

It afforded great ſatisfaction to us both, to find this man, who had been abandoned by all the world, and conſidered as incurable, by the help of hemlock not only recovered from his evening-fever, nocturnal ſweats, a cachexy, and maraſ-

mus, but alſo cured of a cancer of the worſt kind, and perfectly reſtored to vigor and to health.

In a few weeks I heard from his relations that he married.

CASE IX.

A Man, forty-two years of age, complained, for ſeveral years paſt, of a wandering gouty pain, which the heat of the bed at night conſiderably encreaſed.

He took, for a great while, decoctions of various kinds, beſides many other external and internal remedies; but without the leaſt relief from any.

Nor were ſulphureous and other baths, tho continued for a conſiderable time, of any ſervice to him.

At laſt the matter, which had hitherto been wandering and unſettled, now fixed itſelf at the right ſhoulder, and at the coxendix-bone of the ſame ſide.

His arm and his foot were now deprived of motion; his ſide became leſs ſenſible; and a maraſmus was coming on.

Several kinds of medicines were now inwardly and outwardly attempted, which rather encreaſed the pains, and ſeemed to render worſe the evil which was already great.

Nor did electricity, applied conſtantly for three months, produce any alteration in the preſent caſe.

Laſt ſummer, when I lived in the country, this man came to me, and related to me the hiſtory of his complaints.

The

The cauſe and true origin of the diſorder he could not tell.

But as I had found, that hemlock was of conſiderable uſe againſt rheumatic and gouty pains, whether wandering or fixed, I alſo thought it ought to be adminiſtered in the preſent inſtance.

I therefore preſcribed, morning and evening, five pills of two grains; together with a plentiful decoction of burdock-root.

He returned eight days afterwards, and complained of greater pain in his ſhoulder, and near the coxendix-bone, and a diſagreeable tingling all over his foot and arm.

No alteration happened in any other reſpect.

I therefore perſuaded him to take eight pills of hemlock every morning, and as many at night; and to continue the decoction of burdock-root.

The fourteenth day, the pain was mitigated; but from the ſide that was affected, as well as from the foot and arm, an itching and ſtinking ſweat perſpired; and white tranſparent puſtules, filled with ſharp ſerum, began alſo to appear.

The ſenſation was now much recovered in his ſide.

He had a good ſtomach, and tolerable ſtrength; he urined plentifully, but it excited heat in the paſſage as it came away; his body was ſufficiently open.

The patient now began to take twenty pills a day, and continued to drink the decoction of burdock-root.

The twenty-fourth, the fleſh ſeemed to return to the arm; and ſome appearance of motion was obſerved.

Every thing elſe was in the former ſtate; but the

the puſtules were ſtill encreaſing; nor did the itching ceaſe.

The thirty-ſixth day, the patient felt all over his body a diſagreeable heat and itching; and, from the puſtules which were broke, thick cruſts aroſe, and an actual ſcab appeared.

But the foot and arm were much more moveable, tolerably ſtrong, and quite ſenſible.

I took care to have the whole body waſhed over twice a day with an infuſion of hemlock in milk.

In a few days, ſeveral of the cruſts fell off; but the puſtules were ſtill in greater number, and the itching was encreaſed.

The fiftieth day, the arm could be already moved on every ſide; the foot, however, was not quite ſo free, but yet was moveable, flexible, and enjoyed perfect ſenſation.

I then preſcribed an entire dram of the extract of hemlock every day; and in the room of the decoction of burdock-root, I ſubſtituted whey; the body was waſhed over at the ſame time with the infuſion of hemlock in milk.

In the ſpace of eight days, the itching ceaſed entirely; the cruſts and puſtules diſappeared; and the patient began perfectly to recover.

The ſixty-ninth day, he was enabled to ſtir about, to move his arm every way, and to walk an hour and an half together without being much fatigued.

I then began to decreaſe the doſe of hemlock by degrees; I ſtill ordered large quantities of whey to be drank every day. His body was now no longer waſhed with the infuſion.

The

The eightieth day, he came to return me thanks, being perfectly cured.

CASE X.

A Virgin of eighteen labored under a ſpina ventoſa, for ſeven years paſt, in the heel of her right foot, and in the elbow of the right arm.

The remedies moſt approved and moſt ſucceſsful in the like caſes were of no kind of benefit in the preſent inſtance.

She drank, for ſeveral months, great quantities of a decoction of the woods, which produced copious ſweats, and ſeemed, in the beginning, to procure ſome eaſe; but ſoon again the patient was troubled with a dry cough; ſhe began to grow weak and emaciated; and the evil became worſe.

Antiſcorbutic remedies were adminiſtered, and plenty of whey was drunk, which almoſt healed the ulcers.

But at the time when the expectation of a cure was higheſt, a new pain was felt about the parts already affected; a moſt ſharp ichor began again to flow; and the ulcers returned to a moſt foul and filthy ſtate.

Corroſive ſublimate diſſolved in corn ſpirits, which, on the like occaſions, produces ſuch excellent effects, was of no ſervice here.

I therefore preſcribed the extract of hemlock, and a plentiful decoction of barley with a little milk.

Outwardly nothing but a diachilon plaſter was applied, in order to be ſure what effect the hemlock given inwardly could operate in ſuch a diſorder.

In

In four days time, the ulcers, which had been hitherto foul and fetid, were now grown cleaner; the pus alſo became good; the pains were much abated; her ſleep was quieter, and her ſtomach better.

The ſixth, ſeventh, eighth, and ninth day, a conſiderable quantity of ſharp ſerum was diſcharged from the ulcers.

The twelfth day, the ſwellings of the bones ſeemed much ſmaller; and the deep red was now changed to a more natural color.

The fifteenth day, three fragments of bones were ſeparated from the ulcer in the right heel.

The ſeventeenth, this laſt ulcer was become clean; andfrom its lips a thin little ſkin began to ſhoot, which promiſed ſucceſs; the ſwelling of the bones about this ulcer was much diminiſhed.

But the ulcer and ſwelling of the right elbow ſuffered little change; the pain was conſiderable; plenty of ſerum was diſcharged; the motion of the joint, however, ſeemed ſomewhat eaſier.

I therefore applied a hemlock-fomentation to this ulcer; and to that of the heel a plaſter of the ſame plant.

The twenty-fourth day, the ſwelling about the articulation of the elbow was become much ſmaller; the ulcer was clean, and diſcharged a conſiderable quantity of ſerum; and a grainy ſubſtance was ſeparated from the bones.

The ulcer in the right heel was greatly decreaſed; the ſwelling was almoſt gone; and things promiſed a ſpeedy cure.

The thirty-fourth day, a conſiderable long bony fragment was ſeparated from the bone of the ſhoulder near the elbow.

The

The ſwelling about the joint was much diminiſhed; and the patient could now move her arm with eaſe, and bring victuals to the mouth.

From the ulcer in the right heel a great quantity of ſerum was again diſcharged; ſeveral very ſmall fragments of bones came now away; and the patient complained of ſuffering conſiderably.

In the mean time her ſtrength was encreaſed, and her appetite was good; ſhe was fatter, and more in ſpirits.

The forty-eighth day, the ulcer of the heel was entirely cloſed; nor was there ſcarce any ſwelling, or any pain, perceived.

About the elbow every thing alſo wore a better aſpect.

I then ordered a purge, which gave eight yellowiſh ſtools.

Nothing was adminiſtered the next day, which was ſet aſide as a day of reſt.

But the following days I preſcribed again the extract and the whey.

The fifty-ſixth day, the patient was much better; ſhe could bend her arm, and move it in every ſenſe.

The ulcer in the heel continued firmly cloſed.

The ſeventy-ſecond day, the parts which had been ſwelled were now returned to their natural ſtate; and the ulcer of the elbow was almoſt healed.

As the motion of the joint was now tolerably free, and the bones no longer ſwelled, I thought it unneceſſary to apply the fomentation for the future. The ulcer only was covered with lint ſteeped in an infuſion of hemlock.

The ninetieth day, the ulcer of the elbow en-

tirely cloſed; nor did the cicatrice which was formed, any way hinder the flexibility of the arm.

I ſtill continued to preſcribe, for twelve days longer, the hemlock and the whey; then I ordered a purge; and finding the patient quite recovered, and the ulcers perfectly healed, we diſmiſſed her from the hoſpital.

CASE XI.

A Man, aged thirty-five, had ulcers, for two years paſt, of the fouleſt kind, in both heels, and between the ſhoulder-blades.

His whole body, beſides, was covered with itching puſtules, filled with the ſharpeſt ſerum.

The ulcers continually diſcharged a moſt acrid ichor, eat away the neighboring parts, and even conſumed the tendons and the bones.

The uſe of baths, and the application of various other remedies, brought but ſmall relief; or, if the ulcers ſeemed almoſt healed, they broke out again immediately, and were in the worſt ſtate.

Thus the patient became very weak, began to be emaciated, and had nocturnal ſweats.

At length he called for my advice; and as I knew, by manifold experience, that hemlock corrected a ſharpneſs of the blood, and healed ſimilar ulcers, I preſcribed two pills of the extract of that plant, and a decoction of burdock-root.

In the ſpace of eight days, the itching over his body almoſt ceaſed; many of the puſtules diſappeared; nor did the ulcers diſcharge ſuch quantities of ichor.

The

The twentieth day, the patient was much ſtronger; the nocturnal ſweats were not now perceived; and, from the borders of the ulcers, a white little ſkin begun happily to proceed, in order to the formation of a cicatrice.

I then preſcribed an antiphlogiſtic purgative.

Afterwards I ordered a continuation of the hemlock-extract, and of the decoction of burdock-root.

He now took daily half a dram of the extract of hemlock.

The thirty-ſixth day, the patient was tolerably well; and the ulcers were almoſt cloſed.

The tendons had hitherto appeared naked in the ulcers; but ſince the cicatrice began, their motion was not impeded.

The forty-eighth day, the ulcers were covered with a thin cicatrice; to which, in order to render it the more firm, I applied ſome nutritive ointment.

I afterwards preſcribed another antiphlogiſtic purgative.

The ſixtieth day, the ulcers ſeemed entirely conſolidated; and the man was perfectly cured.

I prevailed, however, upon him to continue, for the three enſuing weeks, a ſmall doſe daily of the hemlock-extract, drinking after it the infuſion of the flowers of elder, and concluding the whole courſe with a purge for the third time, that the blood and the firſt ways might thus be freed from all crudities and acrimony.

From the uſe of hemlock this man recovered a much better color in his countenance; all the muſcles, which had hitherto been flaccid, were

grown firm now and ſtrong; and he ſoon fattened to a degree of becoming ſquare and bulky.

CASE XII.

A Smith was troubled for ten years paſt with a moſt foul diſorder of the ſkin, which did not differ much from the elephantiaſis or leproſy.

He had implored the aſſiſtance of almoſt every phyſician, ſurgeon, bath-keeper, and quack he could meet; he took many of the moſt celebrated and ſpecific remedies for a long continuance; he went into many mineral baths, and received various vapors; but ſcarce ever found relief. He was, however, able to continue the labor of his trade.

This foul ſcab did not ſhew itſelf in the face or hands, but in thoſe parts only which apparel covers.

From this circumſtance he was enabled to converſe with his companions, but never lay in the ſame bed with any of them.

When he found, however, that the ſtrongeſt medicines were productive to him of no amendment, he ceaſed to apply any longer to phyſicians; but leaving all to nature, he refuſed himſelf nothing which pleaſed his palate, drank ſtrongly, nor guarded againſt the viciſſitudes of weather.

This conduct did not make him worſe.

It happened, however, that being expoſed laſt winter to a ſudden cold, he caught unluckily a pleuriſy.

Upon

Upon this occaſion he was conducted to our hoſpital.

He ſhould have been blooded at repeated times; but his ſkin was ſo very hard and tough, that the ſurgeon could not open a vein without conſiderable force and particular attention.

The blood that came away was truly pleuritic.

By the means of decoctions of emollients, expectorants, nitrous and balſamics, this heavy diſorder was in fourteen days happily determined by a ſpitting.

The eighteenth day, I preſcribed a purge; and the man again appeared in perfect health.

The diſtemper of the ſkin, was, notwithſtanding, no way altered, during the courſe of this acute diſorder.

I then imagined that the hemlock ought to be tried in the preſent complaints, however obſtinate they had hitherto appeared.

I perſuaded him, therefore, to remain ſtill longer in the hoſpital; and I promiſed him a cure.

I ordered immediately ten grains of the extract of hemlock to be taken in the morning, and as much at night; together with plentiful draughts of the decoction of burdock-root and liquorice.

The whole body was waſhed twice a day, beſides, with equal parts of water, and warm milk, in two meaſures of which one ounce was diſolved of venice ſoap.

In the ſpace of ten days many of the ſcales fell off; the wrinkles were much ſoftened; and a very ſlight perſpiration was perceived.

The

The ſkin, which hitherto had been wrinkled, foul and ſcabby, hard almoſt indeed to a horny ſubſtance, and inſenſible, became painful now, when handled ſomewhat roughly.

The eleventh day, the patient began to take half a dram of hemlock-extract in the ſpace of every twenty-four hours. The decoction of burdock-root, liquorice, and the waſhings, were continued.

The ſeventeenth day, almoſt all the ſcales were ſeparated; and the wrinkles of the ſkin were levelled by degrees.

The patient complained, nevertheleſs, of a wandering heat, and of anxiety; his pulſe was even, and not feveriſh; his ſtrength recovered; and his appetite good; his urine was ſharp and plentiful; and he had daily, without the aſſiſtance of medicine, three or four bilious, fetid ſtools.

He felt, from the leaſt touch of thoſe parts where the ſcales adhered, a lively heat and pain.

The ſame medicines, and in the ſame doſes, were ſtill continued.

The twenty-ſixth day, he was ſeized with a ſhivering, afterwards a heat, and a great thirſt, accompanied by a ſtrong fever.

I immediately refrained from preſcribing hemlock; but I ordered plenty of the rob of elder, as well as nitre, and a decoction of barley.

By theſe means he was pretty often worked; however his ſtrength was not much diminiſhed; the ſymptoms were all by degrees abated; and the thirty-fifth day, the skin had very near the

the natural color; the patient's appetite returned; and his pulſe was regular, and ſlow.

I reſtored the ſtrength of the patient with a ſoft diet; and by way of medicine, as well as for common drink, I ordered an infuſion of elder flowers in milk.

The forty-ninth day, the ſkin was almoſt returned to its natural ſtate; but it always remained endued with a quicker and more lively ſenſation than had been uſual to it formerly.

The patient had then recovered ſtrength; he eat heartily, and ſlept ſoundly; his urine was well colored, and in ſufficient quantity; his ſtools were of the proper kind.

But as various puſtules appeared upon the ſkin, which itched, and, when broke, diſcharged an acrid ſerum; I thought that, to purify more effectually the blood, the uſe of the hemlock was ſtill to be continued.

I therefore ordered ten grains of the extract to be taken every morning, and as much at night; beſides whey to be plentifully drank.

By theſe means he was perfectly recovered in a fortnight.

The out ſkin, or epidermis, remained, however, very tender, and was broke with the leaſt rubbing.

But this complaint was ſoon remedied by the baths of Bade, which this perſon made uſe of for three weeks.

Being thus perfectly reſtored, his ſkin and epidermis in their natural ſtate, he came to me again, and returned me thanks.

CASE XIII.

A Woman of two and forty, otherwiſe in a very good ſtate of health, began about ſeven years ago, from what cauſe ſhe did not know, to be troubled with the whites; and from that time the natural diſcharge entirely ceaſed.

The matter proceeding from the womb was in the beginning mucous, thick, and whitiſh. A tenſion, and a wandering ſtich were alſo perceived in the lower region of the belly.

The urine, beſides, was totally ſtopped, or rendered difficult at leaſt to come away.

After the uſe of baths and various other remedies, this flux was at length ſuppreſſed.

But there ſtill remained a ſtich and tenſion in the lower region of the belly. A ſtoppage of urine was alſo frequent; a vague heat often attacked the head; ſlight fainting ſupervened; and almoſt every evening a kind of ſhivering ſeized the back.

Theſe complaints were removed by the decoction only of marſh-mallows.

For very near five years, the diſorder was pretty tolerable; the patient did not loſe her ſtrength, and was able to continue her uſual occupations.

But now gnawing pains were felt; the tenſion of the lower region of the belly rendered it exceſſive painful upon the ſlighteſt touch; nor could the patient either urine, or go to ſtool.

By the means of the moſt emollient gliſters and fomentations, a ſharp troubled urine came away;

away; the ſtools were black, hard, and lumpy.

The patient received relief from hence; recovering her ſtrength, and able to be out of bed.

On touching the outſide, a hard ſwelling was perceived in the lower region of the belly, in which was felt a hot, gnawing, pungent pain.

On this account the woman went into the moſt emollient bath for two hours every day; and on the eighth, a ſtinking, blackiſh, and ſharp ichor came away; which abated both the heat and pain.

She uſed the ſame bath for a fortnight ſtill, and found herſelf infinitely better; for the parts which had been ſo tender, could now well bear a rougher handling; and the patient was able to walk about without uneaſineſs.

But the flux of the ſharpeſt ichor was ſtill becoming more conſiderable; and the neck of the womb, and outer parts, were eaten away.

External remedies were applied, and inward medicines adminiſtered, upon this occaſion.

For ſome days the patient ſeemed to receive relief; and the diſcharge was much more moderate.

The pains were, however, again augmented; and a fever ſupervened, accompanied with a ſtoppage of the urine; ſo that emollient gliſters and fomentations were neceſſary to free the urinary paſſage; in conſequence of which, the diſcharge, alſo, of the ichor was more copious.

By degrees the patient became much weakened; ſhe began to ſhiver towards evening, af-

terwards to be hot, and to ſweat profuſely in the night.

Every thing that was tried, was tried to no kind of purpoſe; the pains were more acute, and more obſtinate; the matter was more fetid, and more acrid.

Abandoned by the phyſicians, ſhe came to our hoſpital, emaciated and cachectic.

I preſcribed every remedy which I had experienced to be uſeful in the like complaints.

I endeavored, beſides, to correct the acrimony with demulcent decoctions, and a ſoftening diet.

The patient's ſtrength ſeemed ſomewhat augmented, and her mind leſs melancholy; but the evening fever, and the nocturnal ſweats, remained.

Nor were the pains diminiſhed, or the flux more moderate.

Theſe circumſtances induced me to change the uſual remedies, in favor of the hemlock.

I ordered, however, to be drank at the ſame time a ſtrong decoction of marſh-mallows, and took care to have the neck of the womb and outer parts waſhed, ſeveral times a day, with a weak infuſion of hemlock in milk.

Every thing wore, in a few days, a much better aſpect; the pains abated; the evening fever was more moderate, ſleep more undiſturbed, the ſweats much leſs profuſe, and the matter, which the womb diſcharged, leſs fetid.

The eighteenth day, I now ordered four and twenty grains of the hemlock-extract, in the ſpace of every twenty-four hours.

The ſymptoms were, almoſt every day growing

ing better; the pain was, however, ſo conſiderable, that, in order to abate it, the help of opium was found neceſſary.

The thirtieth day, the pains were violent and burning, accompanied with a fever, and a thirſt; and the patient was much reduced.

I diſcontinued the hemlock for a time; not that I condemned it on this account.

I ordered the patient to be blooded; nothing was adminiſtered inwardly except a moſt emollient decoction with nitre and honey.

Outwardly, an emollient cataplaſm was applied.

When the fever came on, the diſcharge from the womb entirely ceaſed; the paſſage of the urine became difficult, tho not totally ſtopped.

The blood which was drawn was thick and enflamed.

Theſe bad ſymptoms perſevered, with ſcarce the leaſt remiſſion, to the fourth day; and the patient was perceived often to have ſhiverings.

The fourth, ſhe was very weak; the pulſe often intermitted; and in the face many changes were obſerved of color and of heat.

At length, towards evening, after much ſhivering, a cold ſweat, and a ſlight fainting, ſome mucous matter diſcharged itſelf from the womb, mixed with bloody ſtreaks, and emitting a very offenſive ſmell.

Hence all concluded the preſence of a mortification which could not be otherwiſe than fatal.

But in half an hour a conſiderable quantity of pus appeared, and the patient found herſelf much relieved; the night was paſt in quiet, and the ſleep refreſhed her.

The next morning, I found the patient in good ſpirits; the pulſe was natural; a moderate flow of pus continued.

I then preſcribed a decoction of marſh-mallows without nitre; but I ordered pills, at the ſame time, compoſed of olibanum, maſtick, ſarcocol, and the mucilage of gum-dragon.

The pains about the region of the womb were at preſent few; nor was there any hardneſs now obſerved.

By theſe medicines alone, and with a ſoftening diet, the diſcharge of pus was ended in a fortnight; and the patient's ſtrength augmented.

However, as, upon the ceſſation of the pus, a dropping of ichor was ſtill perceived, which made the patient feel pungent pains wandering in the womb; I laid aſide the balſamic pills, and preſcribed a-new the hemlock-extract; by which means ſhe was entirely cured in three weeks time.

She now was luſty, active, ſtrong; the diſcharge from the womb was ceaſed; her urine flowed with eaſe; her appetite was good; her ſleep was refreſhing and undiſturbed.

CASE XIV.

A Woman of eight and forty had had the whites for about fifteen years; and tho ſhe took, for a very long continuance, every remedy preſcribed to her by the beſt phyſicians, the evil ſtill perſiſted in its uſual ſtate, or even became worſe.

When ſhe found that her complaints remained the ſame, whether ſhe followed or neglected the

directions of her doctors, and that even medicines had weakened and altered her for the worſe; ſhe changed her conduct, and abandoned herſelf to the management of nature.

She took no remedies for eleven years; and then the menſes diſcontinued, which hitherto had always flowed at proper times, and in ſufficient quantities.

Very violent and acute pains were felt upon this occaſion in the womb, accompanied with a continual heat; and the matter which had hitherto been mucous, benign, and thick, was now become greeniſh, thin, and of a bad ſmell.

She then implored the ſuccour of phyſicians, applied to ſurgeons, and adviſed with ſeveral old women; but remedies rather encreaſed her miſery, than afforded her relief.

The patient was by degrees reduced to the loweſt ſtate.

The pains and heat were both continual; towards evening they encreaſed; to the diſcharge of the moſt putrid ichor, now was joined diſſolved and fetid blood, together with fibrous, corrupted, blackiſh cruſts; the neck of the womb and outward parts were gradually exulcerated and eaten away; nor could the emaciated patient ſcarce ſupport herſelf erect.

In this moſt wretched ſituation we admitted her into the hoſpital.

I deſired Mr. Haffner to examine as well as poſſible the parts of generation.

He found thoſe, which outwardly appear, exeded; the neck of the womb exulcerated; its mouth hard and painful, emitting a ſanious matter when cloſely preſſed.

I ad-

I adviſed injections into the neck of the womb twice every day, compoſed of a weak infuſion of the hemlock-plant, with a little honey of roſes, and one-ſixth part of milk.

A decoction alſo was adminiſtered of emollient, demulcent, and involving ingredients, mixed with one-third portion of new milk.

In ſix days time the ſmell was become much leſs offenſive; and the patient was ſomewhat better.

I then, beſides the decoction, preſcribed the hemlock; the injections likewiſe were continued.

All the ſymptoms were by degrees abated; in the room of ichor, a mucous pus-like matter at length appeared; and afterwards all diſcharge was diſcontinued.

And in the ſpace of eleven weeks this woman recovered perfect health.

It was not found neceſſary to adminiſter above half a dram daily of the extract, as this doſe proved ſufficient to obviate every ſymptom.

The injections were laid aſide, as ſoon as the benign matter began to flow.

The genital parts were, however, waſhed now and then every day, leſt this benign matter ſhould acquire acrimony by lodging in any of the folds.

CASE XV.

A Woman of two and fifty was long troubled with a continual gnawing pain in the womb.

She was at the ſame time afflicted with the whites, which became at length of ſuch malignancy,

nancy, that the parts of generation not only were corroded; but the very linens, into which it was received, were ſhortly rendered friable and rotten.

The ſmell, beſides, was ſo conſiderable, and ſo offenſive, that her huſband ſhunned her; and her female acquaintance, with whom ſhe had been moſt intimate, avoided now her company.

After having ſpent much of her ſubſtance to no purpoſe, in ſearch of cure, ſhe at laſt requeſted my advice.

I ordered her to drink plenty of whey, and to waſh the genital parts with a weak infuſion of hemlock and milk, with a little honey of roſes.

But as ſhe complained of terrible pains, during the night, in the womb, I ordered her powders, every night going to bed, of half a dram of crabs-eyes, and a grain of opium.

This rendered her ſleep longer, and leſs diſturbed; her appetite was augmented; ſhe even ſeemed ſomewhat ſtronger, and more hearty.

In other reſpects, however, no alteration happened.

I then preſcribed, beſides the whey, the hemlock-extract; and I continued the evening powders.

The pains were ſo much abated in the ſpace of a fortnight, that the opiate at night became unneceſſary; the matter which iſſued from the womb neither ſmelt ſo ill, nor was as ſharp as formerly.

The urine, was however, ſtopped.

I then abſtained from giving the hemlock for ſome days, and preſcribed the following mixture.

Take of crabs eyes, one ounce,
of mountainy auſtrian wine, one pound.

Let a mixture be made, of which the patient is to take a ſpoonful four times a day.

This mixture was attended with remarkable effect: the urinary paſſage became perfectly free; and from the womb much ſharp ichorous matter was diſcharged, to the patient's great relief; but in the mean time the pains were again encreaſed.

It was therefore neceſſary to return to the hemlock.

I ordered to be taken, twenty grains of the extract every day; beſides plenty of whey, or decoction of marſh-mallows.

The pains were upon this aſſwaged, and the ſtrength augmented; the diſcharge was mucous, and ſeldom fetid.

Notwithſtanding, in about three weeks, a ſtoppage of urine ſupervened again.

I therefore ſubſtituted, in the room of the hemlock, the former mixture of crabs-eyes and wine.

This gave great relief.

Thus I was often obliged to interrupt the uſe of the extract; and almoſt every fortnight I gave the mixture, returning afterwards to the hemlock.

The conſequence of this treatment was, that in ſix months time, this patient was perfectly recovered from the moſt wretched ſtate.

And now, theſe nine months paſt, ſhe enjoys excellent health.

She lately indeed eat too freely at a feaſt, and came

came to me for ſome remedy to cure the indigeſtion.

But I only adviſed her to live abſtemious for a day or two.

The learned Doctor Collin happened to be preſent at the time; I ſhewed this woman to him, reſtored from a moſt dangerous diſorder.

She related to him, better than I was able, the whole hiſtory of her complaints; and could not enough praiſe the pills, which had cauſed her cure.

She told him, that ſhe was deſpiſed by every body, on account of the ſmell which proceeded from her womb; that her own huſband, her very children, had forſaken her, as if ſhe had been afflicted with the plague.

That, emaciated by a conſumption, ſhe had been reduced almoſt to ſkin and bone; that ſhe had taken a diſguſt for victuals; that her nocturnal ſweats had been very profuſe.

But that ſhe was now reſtored to vigor and to fleſh; and added, that ſhe was at preſent extremely pleaſing to her huſband.

CASE XVI.

A Virgin of eighteen had, for three years paſt, both breaſts as hard as ſtone.

Beſides, ſhe was flaccid, pale, cachectic; her menſes had hitherto never flowed; ſhe complained of a palpitation of the heart; and upon walking a little faſter than uſual, ſhe panted, and was almoſt ſuffocated.

Both breaſts were marked with livid ſtreaks; and a very ſharp wandering pain was alſo often felt.

The glands likewiſe of the arm-pits and groin were ſwelled and hard.

I immediately ordered three pills to be taken of the extract of hemlock, three times a day, each pill weighing two grains; and after every doſe, two cup-fuls to be drank of an infuſion of balm and elder-flowers.

Outwardly, nothing was applied.

The fifth day, no alteration was hitherto obſerved.

I therefore encreaſed the hemlock to four pills three times a day, and continued the ſame infuſion.

The eighth day, the livid ſtreaks diſappeared from both the breaſts; but the wandering pungent pains were much more frequent; the ſtrength was greater.

The tenth day, fifteen pills were now daily adminiſtered to the patient.

The twelfth day, a white, glutinous matter iſſued from the womb in conſiderable quantities; all the hardneſſes appeared leſs great; the reſpiration was eaſier; nor was the palpitation ſo frequent.

I continued the ſame doſe of the pills to the twentieth day, when all things wore now a better aſpect; the ſwellings were much leſs; both breaſts were become more moveable, and in ſome meaſure hanging down.

The color of the countenance, before of a yellowiſh green, was now changed to near a roſy color; all the functions began to be reſtored.

A mucous matter iſſued from the womb in plenty, which was ſometimes ſharp, and produced

duced a heat in the neck of the womb, and ſometimes ſo benign that the patient perceived nothing.

Eighteen pills were now daily adminiſtered of the hemlock.

The thirtieth day, both breaſts were almoſt reſtored to their natural condition; the glands of the arm-pits were conſiderably leſſened; the patient felt no pain, and was in very good ſpirits.

The diſcharge from the womb was no longer either conſiderable or frequent.

The doſe of the pills was not afterwards augmented; and the infuſion of balm and elder flowers was continued.

The fiftieth day, nothing could be found diſordered in the breaſts; there were yet under the arm-pits indeed a few lumps, of the ſize of peas; the diſcharge of mucous matter from the womb was entirely ceaſed; and a good appetite was obtained.

I preſcribed, for three weeks after, a moderate doſe of hemlock, and ſome infuſion of rue.

The menſes then appeared without any kind of pain; pure blood diſcharged itſelf during the ſpace of five days; no palpitation was now obſerved; nor did a conſiderable walk render her reſpiration difficult.

Thus appearing reſtored to perfect health, we ordered her no more medicines.

CASE XVII.

A Man of thirty was, two years ago, afflicted with a very ſtrong quotidian ague.

His ſurgeon immediately ceaſed, upon his recovery, to adminiſter the peruvian bark.

Upon which the reſpiration of the patient became ſoon difficult, and his appetite loſt; there was a tenſion in the left hypochondrium; nor could it be touched without cauſing pain; he could not lie on his right ſide. Finally, there aroſe a hard ſwelling, which filled almoſt the whole left cavity of the lower belly.

Beſides, all over the body there appeared by degrees very foul boils, of a blueiſh caſt, which penetrated deep between the ſkin and the membrane of the fat; ſome of whom, being broke by rubbing, diſcharged black, putrid blood, and ſhortly gave way to fungous fleſh, which grew with expedition.

To all theſe misfortunes a tertian ague now was added.

The phyſicians who attended this patient expected to ſee his former complaints cured by this new diſeaſe.

Hence, they preſcribed ſaline and diſſolving remedies, and bitters in order to aſſiſt the efforts of the fever.

But they had no effect; and the fever became ſo vehement, that the patient was conſiderably weakened; his extremities ſwelled gradually; and a dropſy was juſtly apprehended.

At length he was brought to our hoſpital.

With ſlight diuretics, venice ſope, rhubarb, antiſcorbutic conſerves, &c. I diſpelled the ſwelling of the extremities; his appetite returned; but the violence of the fever was ſtill encreaſing, and the fits were become of ſuch continuance

tinuance that almoſt every one of them laſted about five and twenty hours.

A cough ſeized the patient always in the fit to ſuch a great degree, that at laſt he ſpit up florid blood.

The paroxyſm, however, over, he neither coughed, nor was troubled with a difficulty of breathing.

No remedies were able to mitigate this cough when the fit approached; and a very great heat was felt in the breaſt in conſequence of it.

The patient was at length quite emaciated; his ſtrength was entirely gone; and the nocturnal ſweats threatened a conſumption that would be fatal.

It was therefore neceſſary to abate the fever.

For this purpoſe I joined, to the antiſcorbutic conſerve, ſome of the choiceſt peruvian bark; by which means, in five days time, the fever was greatly diminiſhed; the ſweats by night were inconſiderable; the patient's ſtrength was ſomewhat now recovered; he was greatly refreſhed by natural and undiſturbed ſleep; the cough was much leſs troubleſome, and was capable of being aſſwaged by the help of mucilages and opiates.

I therefore continued ſimilar remedies for ſome weeks, and afterwards added to them others which might contribute to diſpel the ſwellings, and cure the boils.

The ſwelling ſtill, however, perſiſted in the left ſide of the lower belly; the boils remained always in the ſame ſtate; nor was the fever at an end.

A livid ſwelling in the feet was now obſerved; and

and boils in the ſame place appeared, larger in ſize, and more in number.

Several decoctions, which, upon other occaſions, have contributed conſiderably towards correcting the maſs of blood, were of no ſervice in the preſent caſe.

To theſe at length I joined ſome ſlight antivenereal mercurial remedies.

As the patient obeyed theſe laſt preſcriptions without any inconvenience, and as no alteration hence had happened for the better or the worſe, I adminiſtered by degrees ingredients of a ſtronger kind; and towards the end I ordered, beſides great quantities of decoction, ſome corroſive ſublimate diſſolved in corn ſpirits.

Theſe alſo the patient bore extremely well.

But, tho given in large doſes for a month, they were productive of no effect.

Having now tried ſo many different remedies, ſcarce any thing, except the hemlock, remained of thoſe which the diſorder indicated.

I therefore adminiſtered immediately ten grains every morning, and as many at night; beſides plenty of the decoction of barley.

The third day after having employed the hemlock, the patient ſcarce felt any return of the fever.

In other reſpects, nothing was yet altered.

The ſeventh day, the patient's ſtrength was much recovered; the fever was entirely gone; the appetite was encreaſed; the flaccid ſwellings about the joints and in the face were now totally diſpelled.

I now gave daily half a dram of the hemlock-extract.

The

The twelfth day, the urine was thick, fetid, and of a blackiſh red; ſome of the boils were dried; while others, which broke, diſcharged a fluid of a livid color.

The ſwelling in the left ſide of the lower belly ſeemed ſofter, and more moveable; but the patient could not, however, yet lie on the right ſide.

The nights were paſſed without reſtleſſneſs or anxiety.

I then ordered an antiphlogiſtic purgative.

The fifteenth day, twenty grains were now adminiſtered, morning and evening, of the extract.

The twentieth, the feet, which had been hitherto ſwollen and livid, returned to their natural ſize as well as color; and ſeveral of the boils were dried up.

Here and there, however, new boils again appeared, of a bright red, and very ſmall.

The urine continued thick, and of a blackiſh red.

I then applied to all the lower belly a plaſter of the hemlock.

The twenty-fifth day, the patient took a purging antiphlogiſtic draught.

Afterwards an entire dram was taken daily of the hemlock-extract.

The thirty-firſt day, many of the dried boils were ſeparated from the ſkin; but the whole ſurface of the body remained extremely tender; the ſkin broke upon the ſlighteſt friction, and diſcharged a ſharp ſerum.

The urine now appeared leſs thick, and of a b owniſh hue.

The

The thirty-fifth day, I repeated the antiphlogiſtic purgative.

The fortieth, five boils only were now obſerved, and theſe were extremely ſmall and almoſt dry.

The ſwelling of the lower belly was ſofter, and ſmaller.

The fifty-third day, all the boils diſappeared; and, only for the ſwelling in the lower belly, this patient might be then diſmiſſed as entirely cured.

An antiphlogiſtic purge was then adminiſtered to him.

And as he now recovered his full force, he returned to his trade, which was that of a carpenter.

I ordered him, beſides, to continue ſtill to take thirty hemlock-pills of two grains each; and to drink plentifully of the decoction of burdock-root; applying, at the ſame time, the plaſter of hemlock to the lower belly.

After ſix weeks, he was able to lie on the right ſide without uneaſineſs; the ſwelling was reduced to a very ſmall ſize.

The tenth week, the ſwelling had almoſt entirely diſappeared.

At the end of the third month, the man was perfectly cured.

After repeating once more the purging potion, I thought it unneceſſary for him to take medicines any longer.

CASE XVIII.

A Youth of ſeventeen, on his arrival from Hungary at Vienna, was ſeized with a very violent fever; he had, beſides, a large, hard, immove-

immoveable ſwelling in the left hypochondrium; this was accompanied by the jaundice; and his body was all over bloated.

I ordered divers remedies in the ſpace of three weeks, but could procure him no relief.

I therefore had recourſe to the hemlock-extract, of which I adminiſtered to him eight grains morning and evening; together with a ſtrong infuſion of the leaves of trefoil.

In eight days time, the fever was much abated; the ſtrength encreaſed; the general ſwelling of his body was ſofter, ſmaller, and the ſkin already began to wrinkle; the urine, which had hitherto been brown and thick, was now of a citrine hue; the right hypochondrium the leaſt touch of which cauſed pain, now even bore to be ſtrongly preſſed; the appetite likewiſe was encreaſed.

I then preſcribed a ſlight purgative of rhubarb and polychreſt ſalt.

The next day, I began to give ten grains of the extract every morning, and as much at night: the trefoil-infuſion was continued.

The eighteenth day, the patient ſcarce felt any attack for the future of the fever; the ſwelling of the whole body, and eſpecially that of the extremities, was much diminiſhed; the jaundice now was inconſiderable, and the appetite good; the urine almoſt natural, and the ſwelling ſofter in the left hypochondrium.

I then ordered half a dram a day of the hemlock-extract; and to the left hypochondrium I applied a plaſter of the ſame plant.

The thirtieth day, the young man was already ſtrong; the fever entirely ceaſed; ſome ſlight

remains of the jaundice ſtill ſubſiſted; the pain in the joints, and the ſwelling, totally diſappeared.

I repeated the purge of rhubarb and polychreſt ſalt.

Afterwards I continued the ſame infuſion and the ſame doſe of the hemlock-extract.

The forty-firſt day, no traces of the jaundice could be now perceived; and the patient's ſtrength was good.

But no great alteration for the better was yet obſerved in the ſwelling of the left hypochondrium.

I therefore ordered forty grains to be taken daily of the extract; the left hypochondrium to be rubbed, morning and evening, with equal parts of the ointment of marſh-mallows and flowers of marygold, with a little camphire; and the body to be well exerciſed in the open air.

By this means, in the ſpace of two months and an half, the ſwelling of the hypochondrium entirely vaniſhed; and the youth, being perfectly recovered, returned to the army.

I had ordered him a ſlight purge every fortnight during the whole courſe of the remedies.

CASE XIX.

A Man of four and thirty had the glands of his neck ſwelled to ſo great a ſize, for ſome years paſt, that the ſwelling on each ſide of the neck was equal to a man's head.

It was horrid to behold this wretch from the appearance of his being treble-headed.

The ſeveral glands joined in one maſs, and ſtuck cloſely to one another.

Under the arm-pits there were alſo large ſwell-

ſwellings which rendered the motion of the arms extremely painful, if not almoſt impoſſible.

In the fore part of the breaſt, a ſchirrous maſs extended itſelf from the neck to the borders of the ribs.

Theſe ſchirs were corroded here and there by ichorous ulcers.

Foul and fungous cancers grew out in other places.

Numberleſs fiſtulas and ſinuſſes were diſcovered likewiſe.

A terrible cough attacked the patient; nocturnal ſweats conſumed his fleſh and force; his reſpiration was difficult; his appetite loſt; his feet and arms, his face and the whole habit of his body, were bloated by an edematous ſwelling.

The manifeſt ſigns appeared of a true conſumption.

The moſt penetrating vegetable and mineral remedies were preſcribed upon this occaſion, by various phyſicians; their endeavors were ineffectual; nay, the patient became worſe.

I ordered this man, thus emaciated, panting and ſwollen, to be admitted into our hoſpital.

Mr. Haffner, tho he had often ſeen many very dangerous diſorders cured by the ſole uſe of hemlock, could entertain no hopes at all in the preſent caſe.

I muſt own I gave up the man myſelf for loſt; for the undermining fever, the nocturnal ſweats, the continual and fatiguing cough, the weakneſs of the patient, the ſwelling of all the body, the cachexy of the humors, and the

difficulty of breathing, preſaged an almoſt certain death.

In the mean time, however, I deſired Mr. Haffner, outwardly to apply an hemlock-fomentation, and inwardly to inject into the fiſtulas and ſinuſſes a weak infuſion of hemlock, with a little honey of roſes.

I preſcribed, at the ſame time, ſome expectorant and ſtrengthening medicines.

By the fomentation alone, the ulcers were become conſiderably cleaner, and the ſwellings ſoftened.

At the end of twelve days, the patient recovered ſome little force, breathed more freely, and paſſed more quiet nights.

This induced me to adminiſter the hemlock inwardly.

I ordered, for common drink, a decoction of barley, with a fourth part of milk.

By the uſe of hemlock, the ſpittle came away with eaſe; and in about a fortnight, the ſwelling all over the habit of the body ceaſed; the urine was diſcharged in plenty; the evening fever was abated; and the nocturnal ſweats were leſs profuſe; the hardneſs of the neck, the fiſtulas and ſinuſſes, were now all in a much better ſtate; and the patient was already able to be out of bed.

The great and quick effect of this medicine in ſo deſperate a caſe, afforded us conſiderable ſatisfaction; and added to the alacrity and ſpirit with which we perſevered in the adminiſtration of the inward, and the application of the outward remedies that the circumſtances required.

Before the firſt month was over, in which the

the hemlock was preſcribed, the color of the countenance was already natural; the appetite returned; the evening fever ceaſed; the ſweats by night no more obſerved; the ſtrength tolerably good; the ſwellings of the neck ſofter conſiderably, and ſmaller; and the beſt of pus diſcovered in the ulcers.

The learned Doctor Collin and I took care together of this patient; Mr. Haffner carefully continued the fomentation and injection in the day, and, during the night, applied the plaſter of the hemlock.

In ſix weeks time, the ſwellings of the neck were leſſened by the half; and the patient could bend his neck on every ſide without much uneaſineſs.

The breathing was free; no cough was heard; and the patient was become fat and ſtrong.

We now preſcribed an entire dram every day of the extract of hemlock.

At the beginning of the third month, the patient took a dram and a half daily of the extract.

We continued three months this doſe, by which time all the ſwellings were diſpelled, and the ulcers cloſed by cicatrices; the fiſtulas and ſinuſſes were healed, and the neck reduced to its natural ſize, and reſtored to its natural ſtate.

The patient was now hearty, fat and ſtrong; nor did we ever perceive that the leaſt inconvenience proceeded from the doſe that we adminiſtered.

Thus was effected, by the hemlock, what no man before could preſume to hope for.

CASE

CASE XX.

A Virgin of five and twenty had her right breaſt hard for ten years paſt.

This ſwelling gradually extended to the armpits; at length a lividneſs appeared; the veins diſtended; the affected part was in continual torture day and night; and the arm ſwelled, and was immoveable.

Called upon to this patient, I preſcribed immediately the hemlock-extract, but ordered no outward application.

In the ſpace of five days, the lividneſs was changed to a bright red, and the pains were much abated.

The thirteenth day, the breaſt had almoſt its natural color; the veins were ſtill diſtended; the ſwelling was much ſofter, and more moveable; the ſize of the arm was likewiſe leſſened, and capable of ſome little motion.

The menſes appeared the ſixteenth day; the patient obſerved the blood to flow much purer than before, and leſs uneaſineſs to precede the terms.

For hitherto, when the return of the menſes was approaching, the patient was tormented always with a moſt troubleſome vomiting, a very violent cholic, and a diſagreeable tenſion about the os ſacrum and the groin; accompanied moſtly with an anxiety in the breaſt, a palpitation of the heart, a giddineſs of the head, and painful ſtoppages of urine: none of theſe complaints were felt upon the preſent occaſion.

During the flow of the monthly terms, the veins of the affected breaſt were reduced to their

their natural dimenſions; the breaſt was become ſofter, ſmaller, more moveable, and divided into ſeveral leſſer lumps.

The arm was moved with tolerable eaſe, and reduced to its natural ſize.

The twenty-fourth day, the menſes ceaſed to flow; the patient was very well, felt no pain, and recovered ſome ſtrength; and the lumps of the affected breaſt were ſeparated into very thick fibres.

I then ordered a ſlight purgative.

The thirty-ſixth day, a few very ſmall lumps only, and ſome fibrous hardneſſes, ſubſiſted in the breaſt; the patient was in an excellent condition; the countenance, which before had been wan and cachectic, now was of a roſy hue; and the whole habit of body was become much ſtronger, firmer, and more fit for doing any buſineſs.

The forty-third day, the menſtrual flux returned without the leaſt inconvenience.

The fiftieth day, ſcarce any thing differed in the breaſt from the natural ſtate; the arm was moved with perfect freedom; and pain was no longer now perceived.

I preſcribed, at this time, a gentle purge.

The eightieth day, the woman was in perfect health; and her breaſt was found entirely reſtored to its natural ſtate.

I then ordered another purgative; and afterwards I thought it was no longer neceſſary to give the hemlock.

A moderate quantity of the extract of this plant proved ſufficient to cure this patient.

The firſt four weeks, I only ordered three pills in the morning, and three at night; after-

wards, I proceeded to four, and finally, to five pills for a doſe.

Each pill weighed two grains.

No external remedies were applied.

Nor was any decoction drank to facilitate the cure; except ſome veal broth, after every doſe of the hemlock-pills.

This patient had formerly been often ſubject to a very violent pain on one ſide of the head, which, from the taking of the hemlock-extract, has not been once obſerved.

A ſmall doſe, therefore, of the hemlock cured entirely many ills.

CASE XXI.

AN old woman of ſeventy, extremely weak and emaciated, had a moſt foul and cancerous ulcer near the left parotid.

This ulcer produced ſinuſſes and fiſtulas, which penetrated deeply between the muſcles of the neck and the integuments of the head.

Outwardly, a fomentation of hemlock was applied by Mr. Haffner; and he injected ſeveral times a day, the fiſtulas and ſinuſſes with an infuſion of the ſame herb.

Inwardly, I ordered the hemlock and plenty of milk.

In the ſpace of twenty days, every thing cancerous, fungous, or corrupt, was ſeparated from the ulcer; ſeveral of the ſinuſſes were cloſed; and the patient recovered ſtrength.

She then took a diſguſt to milk; ſo that I allowed a little wine, ſome veal, barley-cream, or rice lightly boiled.

Every

Every thing wore daily now a better aſpect; and in the ſixth week of the hemlock's being employed, all the ſinuſſes and fiſtulas were found cloſed, and the ulcer covered with a firm cicatrice.

Nothing more was outwardly applied; but two pills were ſtill ordered to be taken inwardly every morning, and as many every evening, for a fortnight.

We then diſmiſſed this old woman from the hoſpital, perfectly cured, and full of ſpirits.

CASE XXII.

A Woman of four and forty, healthy in other reſpects, diſcontinued to have her monthly terms from the age of two and thirty.

She felt no other inconvenience from this ceſſation, than a tenſion in her left groin.

She frequented baths, and tried various other remedies, in vain.

In two years after the firſt ſtoppage of the menſes, ſhe perceived a hardneſs in the left region of the belly, which cauſed no pain even on being handled, and could be moved up and down.

This encreaſed, in ſize, ſo quick, that in a very ſhort time it was double the bigneſs of a man's fiſt.

And when the patient lay on the right ſide, it excited a pain, a tenſion, and anxiety.

She had recourſe again to the moſt emollient baths, took remedies preſcribed to her by the beſt phyſicians, and outwardly applied a plaſter and ointment.

The ſwelling ſoon ſeemed ſofter, ſmaller; but

it returned quickly to the hardneſs of a ſtone; and a tenſion was perceived all over the left ſide of the belly.

The patient, finding remedies productive of no effect, left her diſorder to take its courſe, without attempting to check its progreſs.

However, ſhe bound bandages round her belly, to hinder the ſwelling, which was not fixed to any one place, from being any obſtruction to her in walking or in lying.

In the month of February, 1761, ſhe was ſeized with a peripneumony, which obliged her to be brought to our hoſpital.

By the means of antiphlogiſtic, emollient, and expectorant remedies, this diſeaſe was happily terminated in five and twenty days, by a ſpitting; and the patient recovered.

After this diſorder, a pain began to be perceived in the ſwelling of the lower region of the belly, which was ſometimes violent, and at others, almoſt vaniſhed.

The woman, herſelf, told her ſtory in the manner I have now repeated it.

Mr. Haffner and I examined the ſwelling, and concluded it to be a ſchir of the left ovary.

But as ſo many remedies were already given, for a conſiderable length of time uninterruptedly, without effecting any alteration, we immediately preſcribed the hemlock, together with a ſtrong decoction of marſh-mallows root; but applied nothing outwardly.

The pain ſoon ceaſed in the part affected; but the head was heavy, and ſeemed to the patient, as if ſqueezed by a preſs.

I then ordered a gentle purgative, which gave

the head great eaſe. Afterwards I returned to the hemlock.

This woman, by degrees, became quite well; her appetite was reſtored; her ſtrength encreaſed; her ſleep calm and undiſturbed.

A fortnight after we firſt gave the hemlock, the ſwelling ſeemed already to be ſofter; and from the womb proceeded a white, thick, viſcid, mucous matter, without ſmell.

In the ſpace of a month, the ſwelling was now ſmaller by the half, and ſoftened; the mucous matter ſtill continued to iſſue from the womb.

It was then obſerved, that the diſcharge of this matter produced a heat in the womb, and other genital parts.

Before the ſecond month elapſed, nothing could be now diſtinguiſhed like a hardneſs, or a ſwelling; the woman complained of no inconvenience, and was able to lie on any ſide.

The mucus flowed now in leſs quantities from the womb, and was of a thinner kind.

In a few days it ceaſed entirely; and the woman had every appearance of perfect health.

However, I took care that ſhe ſhould ſtill continue for a fortnight the uſe of the hemlock-pills, that nothing might remain which could afford occaſion for a relapſe.

CASE XXIII.

A Child of three years old was afflicted with the worſt rickets; his face and body were ſwelled; and his ſtrength reduced.

I tried many remedies, which have been ſalutary

lutary on the like occaſions, but were of no ſervice here.

This determined me to give the hemlock; I began by a grain every morning, and a grain at night.

The fourth day, I encreaſed the doſe to four grains daily; the child began already to have an appetite.

The eighth, I now adminiſtered ſix grains a day; the infant was ſtronger, and could ſupport itſelf on its little legs.

I did not afterwards augment the doſe, as things were growing better every day; and the child, which had hitherto been ſluggiſh, moroſe, and fearful, was in a month's time become active, merry, and ſtout; he eat heartily; and the ſwellings of the joints were, at leaſt, leſſened by two thirds.

The cachectic color of the countenance was changed to a natural and ruddy complexion.

At the end of the third month, the child was perfectly cured; he walked without ſupport, and ſlept without anxiety; he fattened apace; and on his recovery, his cloaths were found too narrow, and too ſhort. Hence we may conclude, that this child grew conſiderably during his taking of the hemlock; nor ever felt any inconvenience from it.

CASE XXIV.

A Little girl of four years old, and rickety, has taken the hemlock theſe three months paſt, and is now near cured.

CASE

CASE XXV.

A Virgin of eighteen vomited, every afternoon, for four years paſt, whatever was in her ſtomach; in conſequence of which ſhe became cachectic, and was almoſt emaciated.

Various remedies, adminiſtered to her by other phyſicians, and by me, afforded indeed ſome temporary relief; but the evil returned again in a few days.

The patient complained of a pain and heat in the upper region of the belly; a tenſion might alſo be perceived, but no hardneſs.

I tried, however, the hemlock; and in a fortnight the vomiting was leſs frequent; and the ſtrength was ſomewhat augmented.

The third week the vomiting entirely ceaſed; but a kind of anxiety was felt every afternoon; and the nights were paſſed uneaſily.

I then preſcribed a purging draught, which gave the patient great relief.

Afterwards I continued the hemlock; and towards the end of the ſecond month, perfect health and ſufficient ſtrength were now reſtored.

The monthly terms, which had hitherto been inconſiderable, and always began with a pain in the belly and towards the lower part of the back, flowed at preſent plentifully and freely.

CASE XXVI.

A Woman of three and twenty had a large lymphatic ſwelling all round her right knee.

Neither the fomentations, plaſter, ointments, or internal remedies uſual in ſimilar caſes, were of any benefit here. But

But the uſe of hemlock alone, inwardly and outwardly adminiſtered, totally diſpelled the ſwelling in three weeks time.

In this interval purgatives were twice preſcribed.

The hemlock in this perſon provoked very plentiful diſcharges of urine.

CASE XXVII.

A Workman, who had a cataract very near a a year in his left eye, was cured in the ſpace of three months and a half by the means of hemlock, together with a decoction of burdock-root.

Every tenth day a purge was given to him.

For ſix weeks he took a dram and a half, every day, of the extract; and during the laſt months, two drams daily.

This man not only recovered perfect ſight by the uſe of hemlock, but his ſtrength alſo was much encreaſed; and he got rid, at the ſame time, of rheumatic pains, with which he had been afflicted all over his body for eight years before.

CASE XXVIII.

A Virgin of five and twenty was ſuddenly deprived of ſight after an acute diſeaſe, and afflicted with a true gutta ſerena.

I had often ſeen corroſive ſublimate diſſolved in corn-ſpirits, together with reſolving decoctions, of great uſe on ſimilar occaſions.

This medicine I therefore ordered to the preſent patient, and continued it for near two months; but without perceiving the leaſt benefit to ariſe from it.

But

But as I had often obſerved the hemlock to penetrate where the ſublimate could not gain admittance, I thought it proper to recur to it now.

I immediately begun with twenty grains a day.

After three weeks the patient frequently complained of giddineſs and ſcintillations; ſhe thought already ſhe could diſtinguiſh light and colors.

But ſuch intervals ſoon ended; and the head returned giddy.

I then ordered a purge.

Towards the end of the ſecond month the patient could now obſcurely perceive ſome objects; nor was ſhe often troubled with the giddineſs or ſcintillation.

From the beginning of the third month ſhe took two drams a day of the extract; and her ſight was conſiderably improved.

This doſe was continued to the fifth month; at which time ſhe could ſee and diſtinguiſh every thing.

Tho the hemlock was adminiſtered in large doſes to this patient, and for a long continuance, ſhe never found any inconvenience from it; her appetite was even reſtored; her ſtrength encreaſed; and all her actions, which had hitherto been languid, were now exerciſed with eaſe and pleaſure.

The monthly terms continued to appear at due times, and in proper quantities.

CASE XXIX.

A Man of fifty was troubled with the gout from his thirty-ſeventh year; he had nodes not only about the joints of his feet, but alſo in his hands and knees; the chalky matter eat away the neighbouring parts; the motion of his hands and feet was rendered very difficult, and his knees were become quite ſtiff; every change of the weather or the ſeaſon produced moſt torturing pains in theſe parts, and obliged the patient to take to his bed for ſeveral days.

Neither the baths, nor any other external or internal remedies which the patient had hitherto employed, were of any benefit to him.

I ordered him, therefore, the hemlock, and ſome whey; nothing was outwardly applied.

In the ſpace of five weeks the nodes were all diſſolved; motion returned to the limbs; nor did a change of air any longer cauſe great pain.

However, I adviſed a continuation, for a few weeks more, of a moderate doſe of hemlock, with plenty of whey.

The nodes and gouty matter thus diſpelled, the patient complained, for ſeveral days, of a diſagreeable tenderneſs, which changed into a very acute pain on the ſlighteſt motion, about the joints and places which had been filled with nodes and chalky matter.

I therefore ordered him, as it was then in ſpring, to frequent the mineral waters near Vienna.

He returned from thence fat, luſty, ſtrong, and healthy; and was able to bear every injury of the weather without pain.

CASE XXX.

A Woman of ſixty was troubled with the gout for twenty years paſt, which ſpread itſelf by degrees over her whole body, fixed itſelf in all the joints, and created nodes and chalky ſwellings.

This woman was never free a month from pain; and when it came, it was conſtantly ſo violent, that ſhe could neither move hand or foot, nor convey victuals to her mouth; and often, in the exquiſiteneſs of ſuffering, ſhe wiſhed for death as the only riddance that could be now expected.

I adminiſtered the hemlock to this patient, together with an infuſion of the flowers of elder.

The fourth week after this treatment was begun, ſhe was able not only to walk about in her own bed-chamber, but even to go out and pay viſits to her friends.

In a ſhort time after, the nodes and ſwellings were diſpelled entirely; the hands, which had been rendered by the chalky ſwellings extremely diſagreeable, as well as almoſt uſeleſs, were now reſtored to their natural, tender, ſoft, and fair condition.

Her ſtrength encreaſed; and all her actions, hitherto interrupted, were performed with eaſe.

This woman has now lived near nine months in perfect health, and free from pain.

CASE XXXI.

A Man aged forty was troubled, every ſpring and autumn for theſe eight years paſt,

with a hard ſwelling about the ancles; ſo painful as to occaſion a fever, and confine him to his bed.

By the warmth of the bed, however, and by diluting medicines, in a fortnight or three weeks time, he was uſually freed from all his complaints, and able to follow his ordinary buſineſs.

In the ſpring of 1760, about the time the pains in the ancles uſually attacked him, he perceived a ſlight and moderate tenſion, from whence he ſuppoſed his diſtemper was about to return.

But this tenſion ſuddenly diſappeared on the ſecond day, and was followed by a ſharp pricking pain in the pleura of the left ſide, producing a diſeaſe of the true inflammatory kind.

By repeated bleedings, and medicines generally exhibited in ſuch caſes, the violence of the fever, indeed, was checked; but the ſtich perſiſted equally ſevere.

The blood drawn from the veins was always covered with a thick, mucous, tough, variegated coat.

Bliſters, ſinapiſms, and other topics, applied to the feet, in order to bring about a revulſion of the pain, from the breaſt to the former ſeat of the diſtemper, were not found to be of ſervice.

The fever at length went entirely off, tho the ſtich remained continually violent.

As it appeared, however, on duly conſidering all the circumſtances of this obſtinate ailment, that it proceeded from a derivation of that humor which hitherto had attacked the feet; and as I had learned from manifold experience, that

in ſuch caſes the hemlock had great efficacy in reſolving any ſerous, acrid, thick, tenacious humor; I preſcribed it on this occaſion, together with a ſtrong decoction of marſh-mallows root.

I uſed no external application, either to the feet, or to the ſide.

The third day, the ſtich was abated; the ancles ſweated freely, and were affected with an obtuſe pain.

The fifth, the patient began to ſpit; the ſtich was much eaſier; nor did he feel any pain or ſwelling in his ancles.

The twelfth day, he left his bed; ſcarce perceived afterwards any pain; and continued to ſpit conſiderable quantities of a glary phlegm.

The thirteenth, he paſſed an uneaſy night; he became ſoon weak, and was ſeized with a violent racking pain in his limbs, and over his whole body; at length a clammy, fetid and copious ſweat broke out; the next morning, he found himſelf prodigiouſly recovered; he was briſk and ſtrong, and had a very good appetite.

I then adviſed him to continue, for three weeks longer, an infuſion of elder-flowers in whey, with a ſmall doſe of the hemlock; at the end of which time he came, in the full poſſeſſion of health and vigor, to return me thanks.

CASE XXXII.

A Woman of three and twenty had, for four years paſt, a hard ſwelling, bigger

than a man's fiſt, in each breaſt; but never felt in either the leaſt pain.

Ten months ago ſhe married, and became with child.

In the fourth month of her pregnancy, both her breaſts ſwelled greatly, and gave pain; their natural color was changed to a deep red.

All who ſaw theſe breaſts, were apprehenſive this good woman would have cancers of the worſt kind.

She at length ſent for me; I was fearful at firſt, and refuſed giving the hemlock, as I had never yet tried it on women with child.

Being certain, however, from a great variety of experiments, that it excited no commotions in the body, and that infants might take it with ſafety; I began with a gentle doſe.

In a ſhort time it produced conſiderable effects; the urine became turbid, whitiſh, flaky, mucous.

By the fourth day, the breaſts had recovered their natural color; the ſwelling was leſs, and ſofter.

I then encreaſed the doſe of the hemlock, giving, for the ſpace of a month, half a dram every day; nor was it afterwards neceſſary to give it in a larger quantity, as the patient mended daily; and in the eighth month of her pregnancy, both breaſts were entirely reſtored to a natural ſtate.

During the uſe of the hemlock, this woman was much healthier than ſhe had been hitherto; being freed from a frequent vomiting and a continual head-ach, with which ſhe had been greatly afflicted before ſhe took this medicine.

I could

I could obſerve no inconvenience that it cauſed to this pregnant woman.

She went regularly to ſtool every day; and made a great deal of flaky, mucous urine; which, however, became leſs copious, and quite of a natural color, after the ſwellings of the breaſts were diſcuſſed; tho a conſiderable doſe of the hemlock was ſtill exhibited for ſeveral days.

CASE XXXIII.

A Girl twenty-four years of age, had over her whole body, but eſpecially about the joints, a ſerous, yellowiſh, ſwelling.

For five years together, ſhe took every thing that was thought proper in her caſe, by the moſt eminent practitioners; whence, however, ſhe derived no benefit; on the contrary, her ſtrength was diminiſhed; a dry cough came on; and all her limbs became immoveable.

I likewiſe preſcribed ſeveral medicines to this patient, but without effect.

At length, I cured her in a months time, by a courſe of the hemlock and whey.

From the firſt, the hemlock excited a good appetite; and afterwards promoted a copious diſcharge of a greeniſh-colored urine, with a thick, tenacious, glutinous ſediment.

The ſwelling over the body ſubſided in twelve days; but that about the joints was ſomewhat more obſtinate.

This patient had no occaſion for a purgative; for the hemlock gave her a laxative ſtool twice a day.

CASE

CASE XXXIV.

A Man forty-ſeven years of age, had, for eighteen months, a hard ſchirrous ſwelling in his ſcrotum; larger than a man's fiſt.

Both teſticles were ſound and well.

This ſwelling was owing to a gonorrhœa injudiciouſly ſtopt, by means of an aſtringent injection.

The ſtrongeſt mercurial medicines, even a ſalivation, anti-venereal decoctions, external fomentations and plaſters, were not of the leaſt ſervice.

On perceiving this, I gave him the hemlock, with a large quantity of the decoction of burdock-root.

After the patient had taken a whole dram of the extract for twenty days together, no alteration was yet obſervable in the ſwelling.

The thirtieth day, I encreaſed the doſe of the hemlock to a dram and half.

The thirty-third, the ſwelling was ſofter; and the patient, in other reſpects, well.

The thirty-ſixth day, I gave a purge, to which was added ſome ſweet mercury.

The fortieth, the patient now took two drams daily of the extract of hemlock, the ſwelling ſtill becoming ſmaller.

I continued this treatment for five months, giving him, every fortnight, a gentle mercurial purge; at the end of which time, the ſwelling was entirely diſcuſſed, and the man in perfect health.

CASE

CASE XXXV.

A Youth, aged nineteen, had very bad venereal ulcers over his whole body, with a deep caries in each tibia.

Antivenereal medicines of every kind proved hurtful; his ſtrength was exhauſted, and he was greatly emaciated.

After this patient, put now under my care, had informed me of the different methods of cure which had been attempted, I was ſtill doubtful, whether the antivenereal medicines had been adminiſtered in proper quantities, and with due caution.

I repeated, therefore, various remedies of this ſort; but to no purpoſe.

Upon this Mr. Haffner, ſurgeon of my hoſpital, and I, agreed to make trial of the hemlock.

Accordingly, pledgets of lint, moiſtened in a fomentation of the hemlock, were applied to the ſores and carious bones externally; while the extract and a large quantity of the decoction of burdock-root, with a third part milk, were given inwardly.

In a few days, a conſiderable change appeared for the better; and his ſtrength encreaſed.

Towards the concluſion of the ſecond month, the carious bones were exfoliated, and many of the ulcers were covered with a firm cicatrice.

The pains, which had cruelly tormented him in the night, were entirely gone.

At the end of the third month, his health ſeemed quite re-eſtabliſhed; he felt no pain; and found himſelf ſtrong.

A moderate doſe of the hemlock proved ſufficient

cient to effect a cure of this obſtinate venereal caſe.

The greateſt doſe given in the ſpace of twenty-four hours was one dram.

CASE XXXVI.

A Lad, of thirteen, was troubled, for five years, with a very bad ſcald head, which reſiſted the efficacy of all kinds of medicine.

At length I gave him a decoction of the root of the ſharp-pointed dock, and the extract of hemlock; and ordered his whole head to be waſhed twice a day with a decoction of the hemlock in milk.

By theſe means he was perfectly cured in ſix weeks.

This lad had been hitherto pale, conſumptive, lean, and troubled with a dry cough and a continual heat in his breaſt.

All theſe ſymptoms, however, diſappeared by the uſe of the hemlock.

CASE XXXVII.

A Young man of ſixteen, by trade a taylor, was, two years ago, affected with a moſt loathſome ſcab.

After the exhibition of a ſingle purge, an ointment was applied, by which the ailment was repelled from the ſkin.

On which enſued a difficulty of breathing, and a convulſive cough.

Whatever medicines were tried afforded but little relief; and the lad, almoſt ſpent with a ſlow fever, was at length brought to my hoſpital.

Having often obſerved, that the hemlock performed

formed wonders in foulneſſes of the ſkin, I now reſolved to try what it could do in a caſe where a foulneſs was repelled into the habit.

I gave him, therefore, a ſtrong decoction of marſh-mallow root, and the extract of hemlock. I likewiſe ordered the whole body to be waſhed twice a day with warm milk, in two quarts of which was diſſolved half an ounce of venice ſoap.

In eight days time, a very troubleſome itching ſpread over the whole body, and reddiſh puſtules appeared full of a ſharp humor.

His breathing then became eaſier, his cough leſs frequent; he ſlept ſoundly a-nights; and he began to ſpit a glutinous phlegm.

Tho his whole body was covered with puſtules of the ſame kind, I ordered it, nevertheleſs, to be waſhed twice a day.

About the tenth day, many of theſe puſtules diſappeared again; others of them burſt, and diſcharged an acrid ſerum, from whence were formed rough dark-colored ſcabs; and the ailment, ſuch as it had been two years before, now returned.

The head likewiſe was exulcerated.

The patient then breathed perfectly free, and ſpit plentifully.

The ſlow fever left him; and his ſtrength was much augmented.

I then gave him half a dram of the extract of hemlock every day; and, as I ſaw this doſe was ſufficient, I did not afterwards encreaſe it.

The whole body was waſhed twice a day with the milk and venice ſoap.

The twentieth day, the patient was tolerably

well; but he ſpit leſs, tho the ſound was heard of looſe matter in his breaſt.

Inſtead, therefore, of the decoction of burdock-root, I gave an infuſion of the ſtalks of bitter-ſweet.

By means of this infuſion, the extract of hemlock, and the external fomentation, conſtantly adminiſtered, the breaſt was not only freed from the acrid glutinous matter, but even the loathſome ſcab, which appeared again, on having uſed the hemlock, was entirely cured almoſt within two months, and the young man recovered perfect health.

Theſe are the principal caſes which I have ſelected from my own practice.

Were I to relate more caſes, I might, perhaps, ſeem prolix and tireſome to my readers.

By the hemlock alone I have cured a vaſt number of ſcrophulous and ſtrumous complaints.

I have ſeen women finely ſhaped, with faces handſomer than the moſt agreeable pictures, who have had the thyroid gland large and indurated; a blemiſh which, in the eyes of moſt men, eclipſes the ſplendor of the higheſt beauty.

To moſt of theſe the hemlock was of great ſervice, if the ſwelling proceeded from an obſtruction or ſtuffing of the gland.

I forbear mentioning ſchirs of a ſlighter kind, in the breaſts, arm-pits, groin, neck of the womb, and womb itſelf, which have been diſcuſſed by the hemlock alone.

Obſtructions and hardneſſes in the hypochondria, and various kinds of ſwellings in the region of

of the lower belly, I ſcarce ever failed of diſperſing by means of this remedy.

A woman, upwards of ſixty, had, for ſixteen years, above twenty very hard ſwellings, each of which was as big as a gooſe's egg, in different parts of the abdomen.

Various medicines which ſhe tried yielded no relief; and the ailment encreaſed to ſuch a degree, that ſhe could not make water, and was obliged often to have recourſe to a catheter.

On taking the hemlock, ſhe urined freely; her appetite became better; and her ſtrength returned.

Some of the ſwellings even became ſofter, and a conſiderable quantity of purulent matter iſſued from the womb.

If the patient abſtained a few days from uſing the hemlock, the belly immediately grew tenſe, the urine was ſuppreſſed, and bad ſymptoms came on.

In proportion to the quantity of matter diſcharged from the womb, ſeveral of the ſwellings grew ſoft and ſmall; many others, however, remained unaltered.

This woman has received great benefit from the hemlock; and, if ſhe continues the uſe of it, may, perhaps, be entirely cured.

Nor am I afraid of a ſuppuration bringing on a mortal tympany, ſince the diſſolved matter finds a paſſage by the womb; neither are there ſigns of the matter being re-abſorbed, which might occaſion a hectic fever.

In inveterate heartburns, I have very often given the hemlock with the greateſt ſucceſs; in a ſhort time it took away the burning heat, as

well as pain, and desire of vomiting. Persons, before weak and emaciated, recovered their strength by the use of the hemlock, and became lusty.

Obstinate head-achs and hemicranias of a long standing gave way to it.

When I observed any obstructions or stoppages in the vessels of the kidneys or the womb, arising from an acrid tenacious serum; on giving the hemlock I almost always perceived that the menses flowed in greater abundance, the blood assumed a better appearance, the racking pains of the colic ceased, as well as all uneasy reachings, bilious vomitings, and painful tensions in the groin, or near the os sacrum; nor did head-achs, dimness of sight, or giddiness, afterwards return.

I attended two women, who, about the time of the menstrual discharge, were afflicted with the most dreadful symptoms; they had been married several years, but never had been with child.

On taking the hemlock, they not only were entirely relieved from these complaints, but became much heartier, and both soon after became with child.

What can the amiable fair sex expect farther from the hemlock?

I have often cured a scrophulous consumption with hemlock and milk; I have had the same success with the hemlock in obstinate, inveterate, ulcerated, sore throats, whether eruptive, scorbutic, serous, or by whatever acrid desluction they were occasioned.

In many desperate diseases, where I saw the most efficacious medicines exhibited for a long time

time to no purpoſe, I have made conſtantly trial of the hemlock, and by this means have often effected a cure.

A dropſy, owing to a hardneſs of ſome of the abdominal viſcera, has often yielded to the hemlock alone; often it required the aſſiſtance of other remedies; and often the evil proved altogether incurable.

Ancient gouts, inveterate rheumatiſms, the ſpina ventoſa, pox, deafneſs, the deepeſt melancholy, (from a phyſical cauſe) the ſcab, ſcald head, bad ringworm, foul ulcers, and the moſt obſtinate ſinous and fiſtulous ſores, I have for the moſt part ſubdued, and happily cured, by the ſole aſſiſtance of the hemlock.

I met, however, with ſome caſes, in which the hemlock did no ſervice, tho it was exhibited for a long time, and in a large doſe.

A young girl, twenty years of age, for a ſwelling in her left cheek, which was cloſely united to the lower jaw, and bigger than a man's fiſt, took daily, for above half a year, a conſiderable doſe of the extract of hemlock; from which receiving no benefit, ſhe grew tired, and left it off.

Another young woman, aged twenty-five, had, for many years, a large dark-colored ſwelling in the right ſide of her neck.

I made trial of the hemlock; but a fever was immediately produced, and ſhe became weak.

Other medicines, however, preſcribed for this ſwelling, beſides external applications, afforded no relief.

Wherefore Mr. Collin and I agreed to make another trial of the hemlock in this caſe, under

a different form, in a very ſmall doſe, and joined with other medicines; but the former ſymptoms immediately returned; and the patient, from the uſe of the hemlock, even in ſo ſmall a quantity, grew weak, and was extremely uneaſy.

Hence it was judged proper to leave the ailment to itſelf.

A woman, forty-two years of age, felt a very painful ſchir in her right breaſt for ſix months paſt, which was the time the menſtrual diſcharge had left her.

A ſurgeon adviſed her to apply an external fomentation of wine-lees, boiled in wine.

In two days the ſchir was much larger, harder; and the ſkin grew livid.

Afterwards the ſcarf-ſkin burſt, and a ſharp fetid ſerum was diſcharged.

For ſeveral weeks, different ſurgeons and phyſicians tried a variety of medicines.

But the diſeaſe gained ground; the patient complained of a dry cough, of a heat in the breaſt; began to ſweat in the night, and to become emaciated.

Being at length conſulted, I recommended the hemlock, with a decoction of common barley, and plenty of milk.

From thence her ſtrength was augmented; the night ſweats ceaſed; her appetite returned; the breaſts changed to a brighter red; and the hardneſs decreaſed.

For almoſt two months, there was the greateſt hope of making a cure of this woman.

Then, I know not from what accident, ſhe was

was ſuddenly ſeized with a cough, ſo violent that ſhe ſpit blood.

Hence I was obliged to diſcontinue the uſe of the hemlock, and the patient at laſt died of of a comſumption.

Another woman, afflicted with a running cancer in her right breaſt, was better on taking the hemlock; and the exulcerated hardneſs was reduced at leaſt two thirds.

But, in the mean time, ſhe was ſeized with a tertian ague, which weakened her extremely.

Upon this I diſcontinued the hemlock, and gave her the peruvian bark in conſiderable quantities.

The ague was ſubdued; her ſtrength was reſtored; and from the uſe of the bark every thing ſeemed to promiſe well.

Wherefore I continued giving her the bark for a fortnight longer.

At which time ſhe was attacked with a humoral aſthma, with which ſhe had been afflicted about three years before. She was not able to expectorate, and thus died ſuffocated.

A man, turned of ſeventy, was ſeized with an apoplexy, from whence the left arm, and foot of the ſame ſide, became paralytic.

He was troubled at the ſame time with a great cough, and had in the right ſide of his neck a fleſhy ſwelling, more than double the ſize of a man's fiſt.

After phyſicians and ſurgeons had tried a variety of medicines for ſeveral months to no purpoſe, the poor man was at length abandoned to his fate.

The

The patient's wife then desired me to visit him. I beheld him almost spent with old age, and with distemper, fetching with breath with difficulty, and spitting up a little adhesive glutinous matter; the swelling on the neck was hard, livid inclining to purple, and with a continual gnawing pain.

I immediately pronounced the case desperate, to his wife, and promised nothing. I talked encouragingly, however, to the dejected old man, and ordered medicines that might afford him some relief.

He began to spit more copiously, and his respiration grew easier; his strength was somewhat augmented; but the swelling continued painful, and its size encreased. Hence the patient himself earnestly besought me to try the hemlock.

As I knew it was innocent, even in the most debilitated old men, I gave him two grains night and morning, and continued, besides, the use of expectorating medicines. The effect of the hemlock was wonderful; the discharge from his breast was copious and more concocted; and in a few days, a greater degree of motion and sensation was perceived in the paralytic limbs. In the swelling, the pain was lessened; neither was it continual, only returning at intervals; but his strength did not encrease; and his appetite was gone.

I did not augment the dose of the hemlock.

In about a month's time, the swelling seemed softer; but in other respects he continued much the same, and took little or no nourishment.

Nevertheless

Nevertheleſs, he was kept alive for four months, at the end of which, his ſtrength being entirely exhauſted thro want of nouriſhment, the poor wretch languiſhed for eight days, and then died.

Sometimes I have given the hemlock in a cataract, and by a long courſe of it, in a large doſe, have at length ſucceeded. Often, however, in this diſeaſe it produced no effect at all.

I made a perfect cure of four women with cancerous ulcers about the womb, by means of the hemlock. Many others it relieved for a time, without effecting an entire cure.

In others, afflictedwith cancers, the hemlock evidently did no ſervice; there were even ſome patients who could not bear it, complaining that from taking it, their pain became more violent, their weakneſs greater, and the ichorous diſcharge more fetid, acrid, and copious.

For inſtances like theſe, ſhould the hemlock be exploded? or ſhould it never be tried in ſimilar caſes?

It was neceſſary, candidly, and ingenuouſly, to mention theſe exceptions, leſt I ſhould be thought to want to impoſe on the learned world, by dwelling only on the praiſes of hemlock.

CHAPTER III.

Containing ſeveral Obſervations communicated by other Phyſicians.

THE very learned Dr. Peter ab Armis, a phyſician at Trent, in his friendly letter

addreſſed to me in Auguſt, 1760, expreſſes himſelf in the following manner:

"A moſt agreeable young woman, whom I happily cured of a ſchir in her left breaſt, by means of your medicine, the hemlock, deſires me to return you her thanks."

The celebrated Dr. Joſeph Baader, profeſſor of phyſic at Friburg, writes concerning the hemlock in theſe terms: "By means of the hemlock, which I have now made to be kept in the ſhops here, I have cured in ſeven weeks a real ulcerated cancer in a woman's breaſt.

"In another woman, whoſe caſe I formerly mentioned, thoſe painful ſchirs under the tongue are now in ſuch a ſtate, that the one on the left ſide can hardly be perceived, the other on the right ſide is much ſmaller than it was, and is attended with little pain, tho the woman has been afflicted with it for fourteen years paſt.

"In five months, by means of the extract and fomentation of the hemlock, I diſcuſſed a ſchir in a young man's neck, which, for above ten years, had reſiſted the efficacy of all kinds of medicine."

The eminent Dr. Martin vander Belen, firſt profeſſor of phyſic in the univerſity of Lovain, &c. writes thus: "Tho thoſe obſervations in your book ſufficiently prove its efficacy, nevertheleſs, I hope it will not be diſagreeable to you to be briefly informed of the ſucceſs of a cure I performed, by means of the hemlock.

"A maiden gentlewoman, aged forty, about three years ago, without any obvious external cauſe, was ſeized with a ſcirrhus in her left breaſt,

breaſt, for which, at firſt, ſhe did nothing; afterwards, however, ſhe applied a variety of ſuch remedies as were recommended to her by old women; at length, on the ſwelling growing larger, and the pain becoming every day more violent, in May, 1760, ſhe called on a ſurgeon, who, ignorant of the nature of the caſe, ordered pultices to be applied thrice a day, in order to bring the tumor to ſuppurate, by which means the ſymptoms grew worſe.

"In the mean time, without requiring any further advice, with a moſt inconſiderate raſhneſs, he proceeded to open the ſwelling, by which the malignity was augmented, and a diſcharge of blood, at times, iſſued from the wound.

"Being ſent for in the month of July, I beheld a moſt ſhocking ſpectacle, a cancerous ſwelling ſo extremely large as to cover the whole left ſide, from the collar-bone down to the laſt of the true ribs, and from the edge of the breaſt-bone to the large curvature of the ribs backwards, and firmly adhering to the parts underneath it.

"On the external ſurface, the veins appeared near an inch broad, and the arteries were dilated to ſuch a degree, that the whole heavy bulky ſwelling was raiſed up by every pulſation.

"The weak and emaciated patient had alſo a continual hectic fever; ſhe was regular, however, with regard to her menſtrual diſcharge, and indeed, had been ſo all along.

"Things being thus circumſtanced, I placed my only hope in the hemlock, which I exhibited according to your directions, gradually en-

creaſing the doſe, till the patient took twenty-four pills, of two grains each, every day; applying, at the ſame time, a cataplaſm compoſed of proper antiſeptics, and a quantity of hemlock equal to all the reſt of the ingredients.

"By which means, in a few weeks, the whole ſubſtance of the ſwelling mortified; ſo that it became neceſſary to diſſect it away at different times, preſerving as much of the ſkin as remained ſound.

"The parts underneath appeared ſound, and afforded good matter; the ſmell of which, however, reſembled that which uſually exhales from gangrenous ſores.

"I therefore ordered the parts to be dreſſed with digeſtives and antiſeptics; the hemlock-pills, in a ſmaller doſe, to be continued; and, at the ſame time, three drams of the peruvian bark to be taken every day.

"In a ſhort time, every circumſtance ſeemed to promiſe a ſpeedy cure; and then, by proper dreſſing only, the ſore was ſo far healed up, that, at preſent, there ſcarcely any aperture remains: during the whole time of the cure, no fungous fleſh was generated; ſo that now ſhe ſeems to be entirely certain of a cure, and follows her ordinary buſineſs, &c."

I muſt here publickly pay my acknowlegements to this very eminent and learned profeſſor, for having been pleaſed to favor me with ſuch a curious caſe.

From the whole hiſtory of this ailment, practitioners are admirably inſtructed in what manner the healing art ought to be practiſed.

For, from hence it appears, we ought not al-

ways to depend on any ſingle remedy; but, in order to obtain the deſired effect, ſhould, ſometimes, have recourſe to topical applications, as well as internal medicines; and ſhould add to, or diminiſh, the doſe of theſe, as occaſion may require.

It is therefore neceſſary, a phyſician ſhould duly weigh every circumſtance.

Sometimes too the art of ſurgery muſt lend its aſſiſtance.

The very learned Dr. John Kolman, one of the phyſicians of the army, favored me with the following caſe:

"I cannot (ſays he) ſufficiently commend the virtues of the extract of hemlock.

"I had, among my other patients, a ſoldier, who, for a long time, had complained of a large, very hard, heavy, painful ſwelling in the left hypochondrium.

"At length, he began to throw up whatever he took into the ſtomach; felt a ſharp and continual pain, and became much emaciated.

"He had a ſtrong and feveriſh pulſe; I therefore ordered him immediately to be blooded; the moſt emollient pultices to be applied externally, and oily injection to be given: I likewiſe preſcribed reſolvent decoctions, with nitre and honey; and anodynes to be taken occaſionally.

"By theſe means, I at leaſt ſtopped the further progreſs of the inflammation, abated the fever, and leſſened the pain; but the ſwelling, inſtead of diminiſhing, rather grew larger and harder; upon which, I gave him whey, with

ſal

ſal polychreſt and honey; and pills made of venice ſoap and attenuating gums.

" But, by a courſe of theſe, he received ſtill no benefit.

" I had recourſe, at length, to the extract of hemlock, which he took, every day, to the quantity of two drams, in the form of a mixture; by which means, the ſwelling gradually became leſs, and, in a month's time, there was not the ſmalleſt degree of it remaining; the patient found himſelf extremely well, and recovered his ſtrength and health.

" All thoſe who had ſeen this patient, and were witneſſes of ſo remarkable a cure, greatly admired the ſpeedy, and almoſt unexpected, good effects of the hemlock.

" I have very frequently cured inveterate ſchirs, in different parts of the body, which had reſiſted the efficacy of all other medicines, by the internal uſe of the hemlock alone."

The celebrated Dr. Crampagna, counſellor and firſt phyſician to his ſerene highneſs prince Charles of Lorrain, made a great many experiments with the hemlock at Bruſſels, and almoſt always with ſucceſs.

A journey, however, which this learned gentleman was obliged to make to Vienna, prevented him from compleating all the cures himſelf.

He was pleaſed, however, with his accuſtomed politeneſs, to communicate to me, while at Vienna, the following caſes:

" A woman, forty-five years of age, had been for a long time afflicted with a ſchir in her right breaſt, about as large as an hen's egg.

" Ex-

"External applications, as well as internal medicines, ordered by phyſicians and ſurgeons, did her not the leaſt ſervice; at length, I preſcribed the hemlock-pills, gradually increaſing the doſe to half a dram a day; a pultice of hemlock, prepared with milk, was applied externally.

"In three weeks time the pains went off, and the ſchir ſeparated into ſeveral ſmall lumps.

"In this ſtate I left the patient when I ſet out for Vienna; by the ſame journey I was prevented from finiſhing the following cure:

"A woman, aged fifty, came to aſk my advice for an ulcerated cancer which ſhe had in her right breaſt; ſhe had alſo a ſchir under the arm-pit, on the ſame ſide, about as big as a walnut.

"I immediately preſcribed the hemlock-pills and fomentation: I applied to the ſchir under the arm-pit the plaſter of hemlock, and dreſſed the cancerous ulcer with pledgets of lint, dipped in a decoction of the ſame plant.

"On viſiting the patient at the end of fifteen days, I was exceedingly ſurprized at the great and ſudden alteration that had happened.

"For the patient had now a good appetite, ſlept ſoundly, nor felt any further pain; ſhe even of her own accord obſerved, that, from the taking of this medicine, ſhe could not only more eaſily perform every neceſſary function, and had acquired bodily ſtrength, but that even her mind became more vigorous.

"The ſchir under the arm-pit was, by this time, perfectly reſolved.

"The cancerous ſore diſcharged a laudable matter.

"By

" By means of the pills and plaſter of hemlock, by frictions, and the repeated application of the ſteams of vinegar to the part affected, I entirely diſcuſſed a very large and obſtinate ſchir, with which a girl, of thirteen, was afflicted, near her left ear.

" For a ſchir in the breaſt, I adviſed a woman, thirty years of age, to receive the ſteams of vinegar upon the part; and then to apply the hemlock-plaſter: internally, I preſcribed an ounce of the extract to be made into pills of two grains each; of which the patient was to take fifteen every day.

" I imagined, when theſe ſhould be finiſhed, another box of them would be neceſſary; inſtead of which, the woman returned me thanks, informing me, that by the uſe of the medicine, in a very ſhort time ſhe had been perfectly cured.

" A woman, aged forty-ſix, had an ulcerated cancer in her breaſt; the progreſs of which I ſtopped for ſome time, by giving her the peruvian bark in powder.

" Beſides this, the breaſt was entirely ſchirrous, and adhered firmly to the parts underneath.

" The very eminent Dr. Manderlier, counſellor and principal phyſician, my collegue, likewiſe ſaw this patient.

" We immediately gave her the hemlock-pills, which Dr. Manderlier had received from Vienna; we alſo applied a pultice of hemlock over the whole breaſt, and cauſed the ſore to be dreſſed with pledgets of lint dipped in a ſtrong decoction of the ſame plant.

" In a few days, we perceived a laudable ſuppuration

ſuppuration come on; the ſchir of the breaſt grew alſo leſs; and the patient ſcarce felt any farther pain.

" Before I ſet out from Bruſſels to Vienna, I ſaw this woman in a good way, and likely to get well.

" The learned Dr. Manderlier, in a letter I received from him a few days ago, informs me, that the cancerous ulcer was entirely healed up, and the ſchirrous cancerous ſwelling of the breaſt quite diſperſed.

" A woman, forty-five years old, conſulted me concerning a ſwelling on the falſe ribs, larger than a man's fiſt.

" I examined this ſwelling with great attention; and plainly perceived that there was matter formed in it.

" Moreover, one of the falſe ribs was thick, enlarged and prominent.

" The good effects which I had often ſeen attend the exhibition of the hemlock, determined me likewiſe to try it in this caſe.

" Beſides this, I ordered gentle frictions, the ſteams of vinegar to be applied twice a day, and the ſwelling to be covered with hemlock-plaſter.

" By theſe means, I ſaw, with great joy, the ſwelling diſappear, and the rib reſtored to its natural ſtate.

" A man, whom I had ſometime before cured of a very bad ſcurvy by the means of antiſcorbutic medicines, relapſed again into the ſame diſeaſe.

" The antiſcorbutic medicines did now no ſer-

vice; the diſeaſe gained ground; and the man's life became in danger.

" In theſe circumſtances the extract of hemlock was exhibited; and the patient perfectly recovered from this deſperate ſituation."

Mr. Cambon, counſellor and firſt ſurgeon to his ſerene higneſs prince Charles of Lorrain, favored me with two caſes.

" A man, aged fifty, had for ſix years an ulcer in the middle and internal part of his right leg.

" A great many phyſicians and ſurgeons tried a variety of means to effect a cure of this ulcer, without doing it the leaſt ſervice.

" He came at length, in the month of March, 1760, to aſk my advice.

" I ſoon diſcovered the ulcer to be cancerous.

" In the ſpace of three months, I preſcribed various external and internal remedies to this patient; and I cleaned and dreſſed the ulcer myſelf.

" But my labor and my ſkill, tho applied with diligence and care, were all to no kind of purpoſe.

" The lips of the ulcer remained fungous, livid, callous; the veins thereabouts were all diſtended; nor was there any thing altered for the better.

" I therefore extracted the borders, and indeed the whole ſubſtance of the ulcer pretty deeply; that a clean and freſh wound might be thus produced, which would ſoon heal in the ordinary way.

" But this operation was as vain as the remedies

medies that had been tried; for the former evil, notwithſtanding every precaution that was taken, appeared a-new.

" I then conſidered this ulcer as incurable; and ſhould have diſmiſſed the patient, without hopes as without relief, had I not heard that experiments had been made lately at Vienna, which ſhewed that hemlock was productive, in ſimilar caſes, of wonderful effects.

" I therefore immediately preſcribed the extract of this plant; which was attended with the moſt happy ſucceſs.

" In a few days, I was rejoiced to ſee very ſudden alterations for the better.

" Nor did any bad ſymptoms ſupervene; and the cancerous ulcer, hitherto ſo obſtinate, was now perfectly cured in three weeks time.

" Before this man had employed the hemlock, he complained always of a ſharp, ſalt, corroding ſpittle; which immediately vaniſhed on the adminiſtration of the hemlock; and the ſpittle became natural, inſipid.

" A man, aged upwards of thirty, had a monſtrous ſwelling in his neck.

" The moſt penetrating vegetable and mineral medicines, tho exhibited in very conſiderable quantities, and for a long continuance, were found to be of no benefit.

" The uſe of hemlock alone, inwardly given in large doſes, ſoftened, and at length diſperſed, this obdurate ſwelling.

" Outwardly, nothing was applied except a plaſter of the ſame plant."

Doctor Kaiſin, who practiſes phyſic with great reputation at Liege, mentions, in his learned letter to me, the following particulars:

"I have followed exactly the method you have preſcribed, and always begun the treatment with a ſmall doſe. I am inclined to think your queſtion, whether purgatives are proper during the adminiſtration of the hemlock, ought to be anſwered in the affirmative.

"For I gave to my patients, every week, a purge; which was of benefit to them.

"I have made the ſame obſervations, during the uſe of the hemlock, which you have deſcribed; I have ſeen the ſkin change to red from livid, and from livid to the natural color; the pains were abated in the beginning; and at length, by the means of this plant alone, they entirely ceaſed.

"The worſt ichor became good pus; the ſchirrous hardneſſes were divided into leſſer lumps, which gradually ſubſided by reſolution; or, as it ſometimes happened alſo, were conſumed by ſuppuration.

"A man, ſeventy-ſeven years old, had a hardneſs in the ſcrotum for thirty years paſt, without pain; it encreaſed by degrees; and a hydrocele ſupervened.

"I was called, and found that the ſymptoms, conſidering the patient's age, ſtrongly threatened death.

"I deſired the aſſiſtance of Mr. Faliſe, a moſt expert ſurgeon; and we determined to adminiſter the hemlock immediately, and outwardly to apply a plaſter of galbanum.

"In

" In a fortnight's time, every thing was altered for the better; the patient's countenance, which had hitherto been of a leaden caſt, now recovered its natural color; his ſtrength encreaſed; his appetite returned; and the ſchirrous ſwelling began to ſuppurate.

" We made no opening, but waited that the ſkin ſhould break of its own accord.

" The pus iſſued out in plenty; but the water remained behind.

" We then reſolved upon the puncture, in order to diſcharge the water.

" Finally, the whole ſwelling ſuppurated in the moſt benign manner; and the broken ſkin joined itſelf to the right teſticle.

" This man enjoys at preſent perfect health in proportion to his age.

" He had been greatly troubled from his youth with nephritic pains.

" I had preſcribed to him, for the ſpace of thirteen years, the remedies uſually adminiſtered in ſuch caſes, which enabled him to live with eaſe; but his urine was never better than common pus and mucous matter.

" But now ſince he took the hemlock, his urine is returned to the natural ſtate, and comes away without the leaſt inconvenience; ſometimes indeed a little purulent ſediment is obſerved.

" As I found that hemlock never hurt the health, and thinking that there might be ſome analogy between fiſtulas of the anus and thoſe in other parts of the body, I reſolved to try this plant in a fiſtula of the anus, which I was called to cure.

" A

"A man, of fifty, who laboured under this complaint theſe four years paſt, and to whom I had perſuaded the neceſſity of an operation, which, however, he neglected, has now taken hemlock theſe three months: the pains are much abated; and the flow of matter is conſiderably diminiſhed."

That accurate phyſician, John vander Belen, writes thus from Bruſſels:

"I can now relate what is of greater conſequence than all the reſt; I have ſeen excellent effects from this remedy in ſeveral gouty caſes.

"Outwardly I have applied the hemlock boiled in milk; and inwardly I have given ſufficient doſes of the extract, diluted in ſome mixture.

"By the means of this plant I have cured many perſons infected with the itch; but the cure was always very ſlow. I obſerved the ſame in rheumatic complaints.

"With regard to a beginning cataract in both eyes, I have adminiſtered this remedy to a country woman thus affected, whom I perfectly cured.

"But this was the great point; I encreaſed the doſe of hemlock even to ſix drams of the extract every twenty-four hours, upon this condition, however, only; that the patient ſhould drink after it conſiderable quantities of an infuſion of the tops of eye-bright, with the ſeeds of ſweet fennel and liquorice.

"This woman, from the twenty-ſecond of April,

April, to the third of November, 1760, took of the extract of hemlock, the quantity of ſixty-eight ounces.

" In conſumptions, I have often ſeen the ſurpriſing efficacy of the hemlock; and have reſtored perſons by its means, who had been entirely deſpaired of.

" In the worſt cachectics, in whoſe ſtomachs too great quantities of mucous and glary matter was ſeparated, this extract, joined with ſtomachic elixirs, has been often of great benefit; where other medicines, tho continued for a long time, were not productive of the leaſt good effect."

Herman Gleiſner, a celebrated greek phyſician, expreſſes himſelf in the following manner:

" I ſhall now relate the hiſtory of a cancer which I have cured by the means of hemlock.

" A man upwards of forty, of a choleric conſtitution, had for ſome time paſt the glands of the groin ſwelled, and afterwards painful: theſe his barber boldly cut away; and from the wound pure blood flowed, without the leaſt mixture of pus; a great pain now was felt; and by the application of various corroſives, and much lapis infernalis, it turned to a filthy ulcer.

" After an entire twelvemonth ſpent in applying remedies of every kind, the patient, now confined to his bed in a wretched ſituation, called at length for my aſſiſtance.

" I found an ulcer in the right groin, extending itſelf downwards near the anus, and towards

towards the navel upwards, and attacking already the ſcrotum and the yard.

" The retorted lips, the cadaverous ichor, the great pain, the frequent bleeding, and the evil continually ſpreading beyond the power of every remedy hitherto adminiſtered, proved the exiſtence of a cancer.

" I conſulted with Mr. Buck, a very dextrous ſurgeon, and inſtructor to the midwives of this place, who acknowledged at once the ulcer to be cancerous.

" I therefore preſcribed the hemlock externally and internally; and ordered milk and water as a common drink for this patient, already ſo exhauſted.

" The firſt alteration I perceived was the bad ſmell gone off in ſome days, and at length pus, inſtead of ichor, in the ulcer.

" Near the lips ſeveral ſmall ulcers afterwards appeared; and the lips themſelves were gradually diſſolved in a ſurprizing manner; the whole ulcer was ſoftened more and more, till at laſt it bore every appearance of a freſh and ſimple wound. In four months time it was perfectly cured."

The diligent and dextrous ſurgeon Koller wrote me the following letter from Bohemia:

" A woman of ſix and thirty perceived, about a year ago, a lump on her lower lip, about the bigneſs of a lentile.

" This lump gradually encreaſed; and when it came to the ſize of a filberd, the menſes ceaſed, the ſkin about the ſwelling broke, and

a ſharp humor was continually diſcharged from it.

" Various external remedies were applied; but things, notwithſtanding, grew worſe and worſe every day.

" This patient was brought to me in the month of November, 1760; I found the ulcer cancerous and filthy; the orbicular muſcle of the lower lip, even to the middle of the ſquare muſcle of the chin, was eaten away by the cancerous exulceration.

" Each corner of the mouth, and eſpecially the right, was exeded pretty deeply, to the breadth of one inch.

" It was really diſagreeable and nauſeous to behold this terrible ulcer; its lips were callous and retorted.

" I now thought ſeriouſly of the amputation; but, every thing conſidered, I ſaw, that the wound would in conſequence be great, which, from the neceſſary motion of the neighboring muſcles, could never afterwards be healed; or, if even cloſed, a moſt diſagreeable hollow ſhould ſtill appear, which it would be impoſſible ever to repair.

" I therefore omitted the operation, and preſcribed the hemlock in the following manner.

" From the beginning, I adminiſtered every day thirty-two grains of the extract diluted in a mixture.

" And tho I obſerved, that in the firſt eight days the pains were much abated, I continued, however, the ſame quantity of hemlock for a month.

" Outwardly I applied ſome lint ſteeped in the following liquid:

" Take, of the extract of hemlock, two drams.

" Diſſolve them in a pound of lime-water of the firſt infuſion.

" I dreſſed the ulcer in this manner as often as I found the lint was penetrated by the ſharp ſerum which proceeded from the cancerous ulcer.

" In the beginning it was neceſſary to dreſs the wound ſeveral times in the ſame night.

" This external remedy I applied during the whole treatment; with this difference only, that in the laſt month, when I ſaw the fleſh had grown, and the ulcer was almoſt healed, I decreaſed the quantity of the extract diſſolved in the lime-water from two to one dram.

" Before the concluſion of the firſt month, things were already in much a better ſtate; the diſcharge of ſpittle, which had been hitherto ſo copious and ſo conſtant, was ended; the ſanious matter was changed to pus of the beſt kind; every calloſity by degrees was ſoftened and diſperſed, and ſound fleſh grew up in every part; the patient ſlept well; had a good ſtomach; and, what was of the greateſt conſequence, the monthly terms returned to her.

" I then diminiſhed the doſe of the hemlock-extract; and, in the room of thirty-two grains a day, I now contented myſelf with giving four and twenty; and this quantity I continued alſo for a month.

" I adminiſtered but twelve grains daily of the extract during the third and laſt month of the treat-

treatment of this patient, as things were then in the moſt pleaſing ſituation; and this proved ſufficient to produce a perfect cure.

" In the courſe of the treatment, I ordered this patient to be purged five times, with the following ingredients:

" Take, of jalap-root, half a dram,
of cream of tartar, ten grains.

" Mix, and make a powder for one doſe.

" She was always worked five or ſix times by the means of this purgative.

" The woman was extremely poor; ſo that it is eaſy to conjecture the diet ſhe obſerved, which, indeed, conſiſted in whatever the pity of others inclined them to beſtow upon her.

" As, on account of the vehement and continual pains, the great loſs of ſpittle, before the uſe of the hemlock, ſhe was become entirely cachectic and emaciated; on the contrary, after being cured, ſhe was fat, firm, luſty, ſtrong.

" And, what was indeed wonderful, all the parts, which had been eaten and conſumed by the cancerous ulcer, were totally renewed.

" The cicatrices near each angle of the mouth were ſo neat and natural, that they could hardly be obſerved.

" The lower lip recovered a proper height, and joined itſelf to the upper with the utmoſt eaſe; but it was ſomewhat narrower than in the natural ſtate."

This was really a great cure; and Mr. Koller deſerves much praiſe for having ſo well fulfilled the employment both of an excellent ſurgeon and phyſician.

Experience, judgment, induſtry, are three great points in the healing art.

Surgeon Sebaſtian Kaim communicated to me a caſe of a girl of fourteen, who had a cancerous ulcer in her left breaſt.

" This ulcer extended from the ear to the middle of the chin, as well as two inches below it, and upwards aſcended beyond the cheek-bone.

" It was dreadful to behold this ulcer; for all the parts were corrupted by a moſt putrid ſanious matter, and were exeded to the very bone.

" Decoctions of various kinds, fomentations, plaſters, and even mercurials and antimonials, were adminiſtered to no effect; and the evil perſiſted ſpreading wide and deep.

" But, by the means of the hemlock taken inwardly, and a fomentation of the ſame plant outwardly applied, a perfect cure enſued."

The learned George Haſenöhrl, phyſician to the ſpaniſh military hoſpital at Vienna, expreſſes himſelf in the following terms:

" I have had frequent occaſion of making experiments on patients whom I attended in the hoſpital; and I have found, that hemlock completely diſpelled hard and ancient ſwellings of the neck.

" Among others, a ſoldier, whoſe neck was abſolutely ſtiffened by large ſchirs, againſt which all remedies were found vain, took at laſt the hemlock, and left the hoſpital perfectly cured.

" I have cured, by the means of a long continued

nued courſe of hemlock, a hidden cancer on the left breaſt, which had ariſen from an external cauſe, and was remarkable both in hardneſs and in ſize.

" In ſix weeks time, by the means of hemlock, I checked the progreſs of a manifeſt cancer near the left corner of the mouth, which had been continually ſpreading forward; and in three months, by perſevering in the ſame treatment, the cancer was entirely healed.

" I have ſeen this plant more than once of conſiderable efficacy in the ſpina ventoſa.

" In malignant ulcers, and in the worſt, inveterate, and moſt obſtinate itch, I have applied this remedy with full ſucceſs."

Joſeph Quarin, an excellent phyſician belonging to the Brothers of the Mercy, and counſellor to their Sacred Majeſties, relates the following facts.

" With the hemlock alone I have completely cured ſeveral perſons afflicted with gouts of a long ſtanding, or with rheumatiſms, who had tried ſeveral other remedies without any kind of benefit.

" In gouty ſwellings a decoction of this plant is of infinite uſe, if the part affected be bathed in it.

" The moſt obſtinate ſchirs of the parotids, glands of the neck, and thoſe under the armpits, I have very often, by the means of the hemlock-extract, diſpelled with eaſe and expedition.

" But I generally gave large doſes to thoſe patients

tients from the beginning, which ſometimes purged them, but without any inconvenience; and outwardly I applied to ſome a plaſter of hemlock.

" Among the reſt, a deaf man, two and thirty years old, had the parotids ſchirrous and almoſt of a ſtony hardneſs; the glands, alſo, of the neck were ſchirrous, and ſo large and penetrating, that the reſpiration was rendered difficult by it.

" By the ſole uſe of the extract, and the fomentation of hemlock, he was reſtored to perfect health; all his ſwellings diſappeared, his hearing returned, and reſpiration became eaſy; and this man, hitherto emaciated, recovered fleſh and force during the adminiſtration of this medicine.

" I have found the hemlock alſo of great efficacy in an obſtinate cough, attended with a ſlight ulcer of the lungs.

" I have checked the progreſs of cataracts in two perſons, by the means of hemlock; but I did not obſerve that it cauſed any decreaſe in either."

Leopold Auenbrugger, a moſt vigilant phyſician of the hoſpital of the nations in Vienna, thus acquaints me with his ſucceſs.

" I have completely cured ſeveral ſcrophulous complaints with the extract of hemlock: nor do I think it neceſſary to detail theſe caſes, as the excellence of this remedy in ſuch diſtempers has been ſo fully proved by your experiments, and ſo ſatisfactorily confirmed by thoſe of others.

" One

" One hiſtory, however, of a ſcrophulous diſorder, well deſerves, I think, to be related.

" A ſoldier having a hard ſwelling in the glands under the jaw, I adminiſtered to him the extract of hemlock, according to the method you have propoſed.

" From whence the patient having ſoon received conſiderable relief, I perſiſted in the treatment.

" The patient, willing quickly to recover health, conſidered in himſelf that this might be very eaſily effected, by taking oftener a greater number of the pills.

" Ignorant of this man's intention, I ordered an ounce of the extract to be formed into pills, that there might be enough for ſeveral days.

" But he, eager and inconſiderate, ſwallowed the whole box of pills in one day, without any other pain or inconvenince than that of going to ſtool above fifty times in the ſpace of three days; after which the ſwelling was ſo leſſened, that, except very ſmall traces of hardened glands, nothing remained behind.

" This ſtout young man had not as yet attained his ſix and twentieth year.

" In cancerous, malignant, gangrenous ulcers, I have often adminiſtered the hemlock-extract with the greateſt ſucceſs.

" I have obſerved mortified fleſh ſeparated from the ſound much ſooner by its means than by the peruvian bark.

" I have completely cured a manifeſt cancer in the breaſt of a woman with child, who was delivered ſoon after of a very healthy infant.

" The

" The breaſt, however, from the ſmallneſs of its ſize, and the inconvenience of the cicatrice, was rendered incapable of being given to the child.

" But it ſucked heartily the oppoſite breaſt, and became vigorous and healthy."

The learned Joſeph Henry Collin, my colleague in the Pazmarian hoſpital at Vienna, beſides many experiments on various vegetables, ſeldom hitherto adminiſtered, which he has tried with great and ſurpriſing ſucceſs in the moſt difficult caſes, a candid account of which he intends to communicate to the public in the third volume of the *medical year*; has alſo made the following obſervations concerning hemlock.

——— " Large, ancient, painful ſchirs about the parotids, under the arm-pits, in the neck, the breaſts, and other parts, by the uſe alone, inwardly and outwardly, of hemlock, I have diſſolved, diſpelled.

" I have ſeen many ſanious, ſpreading, cancerous, obſtinate ulcers perfectly healed by it; as well as ſeveral very penetrating fiſtulas completely cloſed.

" Large ſwellings about the knees, which other phyſicians and ſurgeons declared incurable, Mr. Haffner and I have, by the means of hemlock, totally diſperſed.

" The motion of the joint, as well as the uſe of the foot, returned with full freedom; and even the feet, which had been before emaciated, upon the abſence of the ſwelling, recovered their former ſtrength and ſize.

" When

" When we found matter fluctuating in the ſwelling, we laid it open with the knife.

" We waſhed, ſeveral times a day, the fiſtulas and ſinuſes in theſe ſwellings, with a ſtrong infuſion of the hemlock, and conſtantly applied a warm pultice of the ſame plant.

" A purge was likewiſe ordered in theſe circumſtances.

" In this manner we have cured the moſt deſperate diſorders.

" But if the bones about theſe joints were corrupted and totally corroded, we could not reſtore them to their natural condition; ſo that, upon the diſperſion of the ſwelling, every patient did not recover the motion of the joint, tho, as to all other ſymptoms, he received infinite relief, and found his ſtrength encreaſed.

" Several of theſe patients were cachectic, and began to waſte away remarkably, when the hemlock was adminiſtered, which in a ſhort time put an end alſo to theſe complaints.

" Some of our moſt famous ſurgeons were unwilling to open the ſwellings, thinking the patient would die before the operation was over.

" They contented themſelves, therefore, with recommending ſuch ſwellings to be covered with a hare's ſkin, and thus abandoned theſe patients to their fate.

" But the fact is this; that from ſwellings opened in this manner, lymph iſſued out in conſiderable quantities; a continuance of which might certainly prove fatal to the patient.

" The ſurgeons found hitherto no method of

ſtopping this diſcharge, and healing the wound they had made.

" But Mr. Haffner and I applied to the wound pledgets of lint moiſtened in an infuſion of hemlock; and inwardly, I gave the extract with new milk; and thus we preſerved every patient.

" Among other caſes, one is particularly worthy to be remarked, of a young girl eight years old, who had a large lymphatic ſwelling in the right thigh for three years paſt.

" This ſwelling continually encreaſed; the girl fell into a hectic fever, became emaciated, languid, and on the point of death.

" The phyſicians had abandoned her; and the oldeſt, moſt experienced ſurgeons were abſolutely againſt opening the ſwelling.

" Nevertheleſs, the learned Mr. Haffner and I, to whom great ſucceſs had inſpired great confidence, reſolved to try the hazardous experiment.

" Mr. Haffner performed the operation in my preſence; and four quarts of ſharp ſerum were diſcharged.

" We diſcovered many deep ſinuſes and fiſtulas, which rendered the caſe ſtill more difficult.

" By the inward uſe of hemlock, by injections made with the infuſion of this plant, and pledgets of lint applied which were moiſtened in the ſame infuſion, we cured this girl completely in a few weeks.

" From this inſtance it appears how much the ignorance of phyſicians, or of ſurgeons, may con-

contribute ſometimes towards abridging a patient's life; as well as how much true medical knowledge may conduce to lengthen it.

" If we had not laid open the ſwelling, if proper remedies had not been adminiſtered, this girl would moſt certainly have died in a few days.

" Many ſcabby, gouty, rheumatic complaints, which no other remedies could alleviate, I have happily cured by hemlock inwardly and outwardly applied; and, in this manner, to ſtiffened rigid limbs I have reſtored their ancient liberty of motion.

" A woman, quite emaciated, had her left breaſt much encreaſed in ſize, and hardened to a ſchir, which gradually changed into fungous, cancerous, penetrating ulcers; an exceſſive ſharp, ſanious, cadaverous, copious matter iſſued from them; and gnawing ſhooting pains rendered both day and night anxious and uneaſy to her.

" The ſymptoms were all ſo bad, and the patient's ſtate ſo very weak, that ſcarce any hope of cure remained.

" Nevertheleſs, by the extract given inwardly, and the outward application of the pultice, this patient was entirely freed both from the ſchirrous ſwelling, and from the running cancer.

" The glands, alſo, under the arm-pits of the left ſide, were alſo become ſchirrous and painful.

" This patient drank, during the treatment, conſiderable quantities of milk diluted with pure water, or ſome emollient decoction.

" Laurence Gaſſer, a celebrated profeſſor of anatomy, Dr. Crampagna, phyſician to the Duke of Lorrain, the dextrous ſurgeon Cambon, Mr. Leber, and others, ſaw this perſon, at firſt almoſt deſperately diſordered, and afterwards completely cured.

" I was greatly rejoiced to ſee men ſo eminent in their profeſſion do me the honor ſometime to pay a viſit to my hoſpital, and expreſs themſelves in terms which marked their ſatisfaction at the many ſurpriſing caſes, happily cured, which they had an opportunity of obſerving there."

That diligent, perſpicuous ſurgeon, and excellent operator, Mr. Ferdinand Leber, has taken conſiderable care in trying experiments concerning hemlock; and theſe are his remarks:

" A woman of five and thirty had, in conſequence of a bruiſe, her right breaſt very much ſwelled and hard.

" She took various remedies without effect; a great pain at laſt tormented her; and the nipple mortified, and fell off.

" This woman, beſides, was pregnant.

" As ſoon as ſhe came to me, I gave her hemlock-pills, and outwardly I applied a plaſter of diachilon; the pains ſoon afterwards abated.

" In a month the breaſt was better; but the patient complained of a giddineſs of the head, oppreſſion of the breaſt, and want of ſleep; but as theſe ſymptoms proceeded from a plethora, ſo they were greatly mitigated by a ſingle bleeding.

" The ninth week after ſhe firſt took the pills, ſhe was delivered of a healthy child.

" During

" During her lying-in ſhe conſtantly took the pills, and had the plaſter of diachilon outwardly applied; the infant continued healthy, and ſucked the breaſt that was ſound; the one which was ſwollen decreaſed in ſize at the end of the third month; and the ulcer about the nipple tended to ſuppuration.

" The fourth month, a quantity of blood iſſued from the nipple; the diſcharge was ſtopped by applying agaric of oak to the fungus.

" Things were continually growing better.

" The fifth month, I applied externally a fomentation of equal parts of hemlock and the flowers of elder.

" The eighth month, this woman was completely cured.

" A man, ſixty-one years old, of a ſcorbutic conſtitution, had, in conſequence of a bruiſe, a ſwelling in the right cheek, which I diſcuſſed by antiſcorbutic medicines, together with hemlock-pills.

" An old woman of ſeventy-five, upon being affrighted felt a pain in her left breaſt, which ſoon after ſwelled.

" She applied all over the breaſt ſome freſh butter, which encreaſed the ſwelling and the pains.

" Various remedies, which ſhe afterwards tried, afforded her no relief.

" On her deſiring my aſſiſtance, I immediately adminiſtered to her eight hemlock-pills a day; and outwardly I applied a plaſter of the ſame plant.

" In

" In the ſpace of one month, the pains entirely ceaſed, and the ſwelling leſſened.

" By a continuation of the pills, encreaſing gradually the doſe, the breaſt was reſtored to the natural ſtate by the ſixth month.

" I gave fifteen pills a day, for above half a year, to a young girl of eleven, whoſe neck was entirely ſcrophulous; but as ſhe had found no benefit, ſhe diſcontinued obeying my directions, and ſought the advice of other ſurgeons and phyſicians.

" Receiving, however, no relief from any of theſe, ſhe returned again to me.

" I ordered her a ſecond time the pills, drinking after them an infuſion of the flowers of elder and of mullein.

" In conſequence of this treatment ſhe was cured in four months time.

" Another young girl, who had for ſeveral years a cancer in the point of her noſe, was perfectly cured by the pills of hemlock.

" It is to be remarked, however, in this caſe, that, upon firſt taking the pills, ſhe vomited frequently, and had a looſeneſs.

" But afterwards ſhe became able to ſwallow pretty large doſes of the pills without the leaſt inconvenience.

" A woman, ſixty years of age, who had a cataract in each eye, recovered perfect ſight by the means of the hemlock in five months.

" A man of forty was afflicted with a gutta

ſerena

ſerena after an acute diſeaſe; no remedies were found of ſervice.

" I then preſcribed to him hemlock-pills; he began to perceive the light in three months time, and to have ſome little glimmering of ſight.

" The tenth month, he already went a journey of about a dozen miles without a guide; but he could not, however yet, ſee things diſtinctly.

" The ſixteenth month, by the uſe of hemlock alone, he was reſtored to perfect ſight.

" A woman, aged forty, had a running cancer, for two years, in the lower eye-lid of the right eye.

" I adminiſtered to her the hemlock-pills; and, in the day-time, I applied to the part a fomentation of the ſame plant.

" In the fourth month ſhe was entirely cured.

" A man of four and forty was troubled, for four years paſt, with a very virulent gonorrhea; loſt his ſtrength, and wanted reſt as well as ſleep, on account of a hectic fever which grew worſe every evening.

" The moſt efficacious remedies in ſimilar caſes were tried to no purpoſe in the preſent inſtance; even ſuch as are deemed ſpecifics in this diſorder, only contributed, by being long adminiſtered, to bring on a ſlow conſumption.

" I therefore preſcribed the extract of hemlock, and the infuſion of elder-flowers with milk.

" In a few days the complaints abated; the ſtrength

ſtrength encreaſed; the appetite returned; and reſt was obtained at night.

" In the ſixth month, in conſequence of this ſimple treatment, the patient recovered; was plump and ſtrong.

" A woman of thirty felt, immediately after a ſudden fright in her lying-in, a violent pain in her right breaſt, which afterwards reddened and became hard.

" She was always growing worſe, notwithſtanding a multitude of medicines that were adminiſtered to her.

" When ſhe came to me, I found the breaſt entirely ſchirrous; and a little below the nipple I perceived a ſofter ſpot, where, from the fluctuation, I judged the purulent matter to lie concealed.

" I then applied a fomentation of equal parts of hemlock, flowers of elder, and mullein.

" In a few days, that part broke which I had found ſoft; and a conſiderable quantity of pus iſſued from it.

" The reſt of the breaſt, however, remained hard and painful.

" Nevertheleſs, the ſame fomentation having been diligently applied, and the pills preſcribed, regularly ſwallowed, the breaſt entirely ſoftened, and was cured.

" This woman had alſo, for three years paſt, a ſwelling in the left hypochondrium, which became ſo painful when the monthly terms were approaching, that the patient, extremely weakened, was obliged to keep her bed for ſome days.

" But

" But by the pills being continued for the ſpace of half a year, ſhe was totally freed from this pain, and ſwelling; her menſes flow at preſent unaccompanied with the leaſt inconvenience; and ſhe appears to be in excellent health.

" A man of two and thirty, was abſolutely emaciated, weak, cachectic, in conſequence of ſwelled and ſchirrous teſticles, and an inveterate gonorrhea.

" I adminiſtered to this man, the hemlock-pills for five months; at the end of which time, he perfectly recovered, and was cured.

" A woman thirty-four years old, perceived, after a fright, a hardneſs in her breaſt, which was encreaſing conſtantly in ſize, and a pain that was becoming continually more violent.

" On taking the hemlock, ſhe found herſelf relieved immediately; and by a continuance of it for two months and a half ſhe was completely cured.

" A virgin of ſeventeen had a running cancer, tho not a very large one, in her left breaſt; and in both her feet were filthy ulcers.

" The breaſt I cured, by the means of hemlock alone, in three months; but to heal the ulcers of the feet, two months more proved neceſſary.

" I preſcribed a purge every three weeks.

" A woman of four and twenty had, for two years paſt, an ulcerated cancer in her

breaſt, for which ſhe took many remedies, without receiving the leaſt relief.

" By the means of the pills taken inwardly, and the fomentation outwardly applied, of hemlock, ſhe was entirely cured in the ſpace of ſeven months.

" A woman aged forty had, for many years paſt, her left breaſt hard and ſwollen; and ſeveral round and very painful ſchirs were about the nipple.

" Plaſters, fomentations, ointments, were outwardly applied for a long continuance; a variety of medicines, preſcribed by various phyſicians, were taken inwardly; and all without effect.

" I then gave her the hemlock, which reſtored her in ſeven weeks time.

" To a man, who had a cataract in each of his eyes for a year before, I gave, by degrees, two pounds and a half of corn ſpirits, with corroſive ſublimate; which produced but little effect; ſo that the patient refuſed to take it any longer.

" I therefore had recourſe to the hemlock; and having now taken it about four months, he walks alone, and can diſtinguiſh colors.

" A man forty-four years old had, from a former gout, his left breaſt ſwollen, hard, and painful.

" Divers remedies were applied to no effect.

" He then took ſome hemlock, which completely cured him in the ſpace of ſix weeks.

" A

" A virgin of ſeventeen felt, in conſequence of a repelled itch, a pain about the articulation of the thigh, and afterwards limped.

" She took ſeveral different medicines, and went to the waters of Baden; but could not find relief, and was even become cachectic and emaciated.

" I preſcribed the hemlock; and the whole habit of her body was immediately altered; ſhe felt now leſs pain, and was no longer lame.

" From hence, I have ſome grounds to hope, ſhe will be entirely cured in a ſhort time.

" A man forty-eight years old had, for a long time paſt, a ſpreading cancer in the lower eye-lid of his left eye.

" Outwardly I applied the infuſion, and inwardly I gave the pills of hemlock; and thus this cancer was completely healed.

" An old woman of ſeventy had a continual pain and ſwelling, for above a year, in the left hypochondrium.

" I ordered her the hemlock; and in half a year both pain and ſwelling ceaſed.

" To a boy of eleven, in a very cachectic ſtate, I adminiſtered eight pills daily of the hemlock-extract, which cured him in a ſhort time.

" I have ſeveral perſons yet under cure, who are afflicted with cancers, ſchirs, cataracts, gutta ſerena, malignant ulcers, cachexy and other diſorders; whom I entertain great hopes of reſtoring to perfect health, as relief has been already found in all. " Others

"Others I have met with, to whom hemlock, tho adminiſtered for a conſtancy in conſiderable doſes, had not done the leaſt ſervice.

"Three women troubled with cancers in the breaſt, could find no real benefit from the hemlock; nor indeed from any other medicine; and, after languiſhing ſome time, died.

"One of theſe was carried off by a too frequent hemorrhage; the other two died conſumptive."

Alexander Engelberg, who formerly practiſed phyſic, with great ſucceſs and reputation for ſeveral years, in the abbey of Neuberg near Vienna, and is now a very celebrated medical practitioner at Conſtance, has ſent me the following obſervations which he has made concerning hemlock.

"A man of ſixty had been, at different periods of his life, affected with various ſymptoms of the venereal diſtemper; till at length he was quite exhauſted and decayed; his urine was fetid, purulent, and came away, for ſeveral years paſt, amidſt violent pain and ſtranguries.

"The remedies uſually beneficial on ſuch occaſions, were rather hurtful in this inſtance.

"I preſcribed therefore to him the hemlock, beginning by ſmall doſes.

"Two months are now elapſed ſince this treatment was begun; and his ſtrength is already reſtored; his appetite encreaſed; his ſleep ſound; and the urine natural, unattended with ſtranguary or pain."

"A

" A woman, of forty odd years old, was for ſome time vaſtly ſubject to bleedings in the womb.

" At length, a fetid, ichorous matter iſſued from the womb, accompanied by a violent and continual burning, gnawing pain.

" This matter was not ſeldom mixed with ſtreaks of blood.

" I tried ſeveral remedies, of which ſome promiſed ſucceſs at firſt; and the matter became leſs malignant; but the pains perſiſted equally ſevere; nor was the patient's ſtrength encreaſed, or appetite returned; the matter began again to ſmell as ill as ever.

" Hence I was induced to try the hemlock-extract.

" In the beginning, the matter became much more fetid; but the pains abated in a few days.

" After perſevering in the uſe of hemlock-pills for a few weeks, the pains entirely ceaſed; the patient ſlept ſoundly; ate heartily; and finally, ſhe fully recovered force; and the matter proceeding from the womb was thin, limpid, and without ſmell.

" Soon after a few drops only were diſcharged without the leaſt inconvenience, and the woman appeared well; ſhe had no complaints; her ſtrength was good, as well as her appetite, and digeſtion; ſhe urined freely, and had proper ſtools without difficulty or pain.

" I attended a young man who was ſtruck ſeveral times in the week with a moſt terrible epilepſy; the medicines moſt boaſted to procure benefit

benefit in this diſeaſe were found to be inefficacious in the preſent inſtance.

" I therefore adminiſtered to this patient conſiderable doſes of the hemlock-extract for the ſpace of a month; in a little time the violence of the fits decreaſed; and, at length, their return was expected in vain.

" He has been now in perfect health for ſeveral months; he is active, ſtrong, and his mind, which was before diſordered and confuſed, is now ſerene, and capable of conducting him in all the affairs of life.

" A young man of four and twenty had, for ſeveral years paſt, ſuch large ſchirs all over the neck, and the neighboring parts ſo ſtiffened, that the head could be, by no means, moved about.

" This young man I completely cured with the plaſter and the pills of hemlock.

" Various ſurgeons and phyſicians had tried a multitude of medicines for this perſon without procuring him the leaſt relief.

" In the ſame manner I have completely cured, in a ſhort time, a virgin of twenty, who had conſiderable ſchirs about the ears, under the jaw, and all around the neck."

Sylveſter ô Hara, a celebrated phyſician of Prague, conſulted me on the following caſe:

" A lady, twenty-one years of age, perceived a ſchir in her breaſt for ſome years paſt; but, as it cauſed neither pain nor inconvenience, ſhe ſought no remedy againſt it.

" About

" About nine months ago ſhe married; went on ſeveral journeys; and conceived with child.

" Her breaſt then began to ſwell, grow harder, and give pain; its color changed; the veins became diſtended; her nights were paſſed with little reſt.

" Outward applications only contributed to make the breaſt grow worſe.

" The phyſicians and the ſurgeons, who at different periods viſited this patient, declared her caſe incurable; and forbad, expreſsly, to apply any medicine whatſoever to it; well knowing, that this hidden cancer would thus, at length, be opened, and bring on death."

She was in this ſtate, when doctor ô Hara was conſulted.

But, as ſhe was then with child, this prudent phyſician choſe not to preſcribe the hemlock without aſking my advice.

Upon which, he wrote to me to ſend him my opinion.

As I had ſeen this plant adminiſtered to ſeveral pregnant women with the greateſt ſucceſs, and without the leaſt inconvenience, I recommended to him to try it alſo in the preſent inſtance.

He thought proper to purſue the advice I gave him; and, in conſequence of it, he wrote to me ſince the following letter:

" The importance of the ſubject would indeed require a more accurate and minute detail of the diſorder, concerning which I wrote to you, Sir, the twenty-ſeventh of July laſt.

" But from this I was precluded by the multitude of other patients, who have ſubjected themſelves

themſelves to my care, and by the diſtance at which lives from Prague the lady now in queſtion.

"Not being able, therefore, to ſatisfy you entirely, by a very full and circumſtantial hiſtory of the whole, I hope you will accept thoſe obſervations only, which at ſeparate intervals I had an opportunity to make.

"On receipt of your epiſtle about three months ago, I changed my reſolution; and, according to your directions, I preſcribed two pills, of two grains each, to be taken every morning and evening.

"But perceiving that this doſe, adminiſtered for ſome time, had hitherto been productive of no effect, I ordered double the quantity to be given daily.

"This was continued for ſeveral weeks, but not as yet to any proper purpoſe; every thing rather became worſe, and ſeemed more deſperate; the ſwelling and the hardneſs were encreaſed; the pain was become exceſſive; the livid color tended towards black; and, in a word, there was every ſymptom that could prove the exiſtence of a hidden cancer.

"In ſo difficult and dangerous a ſituation, I could ſee nothing more expedient than an augmentation of the doſes.

"I therefore ordered four and twenty grains of the hemlock-extract every day; and a fomentation of the ſame plant to be diligently applied to the part affected.

"All theſe were repeated daily, for upwards of a month.

"On my return to her houſe, the fifth week almoſt

almoſt expired, I was agreeably ſurpriſed to find every thing in a moſt promiſing and fair condition.

" The ſize of the breaſt was reduced to one fourth, which, upon handling, I found was divided into ſeveral ſmall lumps.

" The blackiſh hue was changed to the natural white complexion; ſhe ſcarce complained of any pain; and, what is very worthy of remark in this practice, ſhe bore a plentiful bleeding of the piles without any loſs of ſtrength.

" Fully now convinced of the incomparable efficacy of the hemlock, I neither added nor took away from the treatment hitherto perſued; but inſiſted, that, by a continuance of the ſame means, a perfect cure would undoubtedly be performed.

" This lady is now preparing for a journey to Vienna, where you will hear, from herſelf, this account confirmed."

The travelling and motion of the coach made her breaſt grow ſomewhat worſe.

She therefore ſent for my aſſiſtance as ſoon as ſhe arrived.

I found the breaſt almoſt double the ſize of a man's fiſt, hard, of a purple color here and there, but not, however, very painful; the veins were diſtended; the patient's ſtrength was good.

I adviſed her to apply, continually, a fomentation of the hemlock; to confine herſelf to her bed, in order to be quiet; and to ſwallow every day four and twenty grains of the hemlock-extract.

She chearfully followed my directions in every point; and the breaſt recovered, in a very

few days, its natural color, and was ſofter, ſmaller, and more moveable.

The beſt ſigns of pregnancy were obſerved; nor was there the leaſt diſturbance of any of the operations of nature.

The breaſt was almoſt every day growing better.

Her time was expired the third week after her arrival at Vienna, and ſhe was delivered of a fat, fair, female infant.

Every body was curious and impatient to perceive whether a long continuance of the hemlock had not hurt the child.

But, as I foretold, all things were found in the moſt favourable ſtate.

Soon after ſhe was brought to bed, the breaſt, being handled ſomewhat roughly, began again to give her pain: the next day it reddened, and ſwelled to a great degree; was purple, afterwards grew livid; and ſeparated into ſeveral leſſer lumps, which diſcharged a ſharp corroding ſerum. It was juſtly apprehended that the ſkin, which was extremely tender, ſhould break, and a malignant running cancer be conſequently formed.

A great pain was felt from the breaſt up to the ſhoulder, and all along the right arm.

The two firſt days of her lying-in, the hemlock was not adminiſtered either outwardly or inwardly.

The lochia flowed in proper quantities.

The third day, the ſymptoms in the breaſt being very bad, a pultice of hemlock was applied.

By this means the pains were abated in a little

tle time, and the lividneſs of the ſkin diſappeared that very day; the ſize, however, and hardneſs of the breaſt ſtill perſiſted great; nor was there any alteration in the lumps, which threatened a rupture.

The hemlock-pultice was diligently applied alſo in the night.

The fourth day, things were ſtill the ſame, except the pains, which were augmented.

The fifth, the patient began to take, morning and evening, five pills of two grains each.

The pains were decreaſed conſiderably; ſome of the lumps ſubſided; and the ſharp corroding ſerum, which oozed out thro the ſkin, was no more perceived.

The ſixth day, things were again ſomewhat better.

The ſeventh, ſhe returned to four and twenty grains a day of the extract; and a pultice alſo was applied of hemlock, which, notwithſtanding the offenſive ſmell occaſioned by it, the patient, finding its good effects, bore with great conſtancy and reſignation.

All things relating to the lying-in proceeded proſperouſly; the infant was in perfect health.

Every fourth or fifth day we encreaſed the doſe of pills.

In three weeks time, by the uſe of the pultice and the extract, the breaſt was reduced to the ſize of a man's fiſt.

The color was natural; the pain was gone; the ſtrength was good; and the arm was freely moved.

From the beginning of the fourth week an entire dram of the extract of hemlock was given daily to the patient, who, tho very delicate and tender, perceived no inconvenience from ſo large a doſe, and was in a good way.

In this manner the lying-in happily proceeded; and when concluded, there yet remained a ſchirrous hardneſs in the breaſt, about the bigneſs of a walnut, which was moveable up and down.

Whatever remained beſides this little lump, which was not as yet reſtored to the natural ſtate, was not hard, but paſty.

This lady was, at preſent, very well, having recovered her ſtrength, her appetite, and ſleep.

By degrees ſhe took, at length, four ſcruples of the extract of hemlock every day; and a pultice of the ſame plant was conſtantly applied during the whole night, and in the morning, but laid aſide in the afternoon, that then ſhe might go into the open air for the ſake of exerciſe, and enjoy the company of thoſe who could not bear the diſagreeable ſmell of hemlock.

I alſo liked this method, as it gave me an opportunity of ſeeing, by degrees, how the breaſt would be without a pultice.

But I perceived no ill accruing from it.

The tenth week, the ſize of the breaſt was very ſmall; but the lump perſiſted ſtill almoſt unaltered.

Even this, however, gradually became fibrous and unequal, which gave me hopes, that, in proceſs of time, it may be totally diſcuſſed.

Glandular ſchirrous portions, thus ſeparated, are ſometimes very ſlow in being diſperſed; but,

but, by perſevering in the proper uſe of hemlock, they are at laſt reſolved and diſappear; or, if they are moveable and have reſiſted every effort, and exhauſted every hope, they may be extracted by art, if neceſſity requires it.

This lady had her monthly terms a ſecond time ſince her lying-in, without any inconvenience and in ſufficient quantity; her health was good; ſhe had now the perfect uſe of her right arm, which had been hitherto weak, and unfit for any long continuance of motion; ſhe went into the open air; uſed divers exerciſes; and found no hurt to her breaſt from any.

Her huſband was, at this time, obliged by his employment to undertake a conſiderable journey in cold, rough weather.

He was deſirous to have along with him his wife, who was truly worthy of eſteem and love.

The friends, and the acquaintance, but above all, ſome weak women, who were ſo many doctoreſſes, endeavored to diſſuade this excellent lady from thinking of travelling on this occaſion.

I thought, however, every thing conſidered, that the journey could not hurt her; and without minding the objections that were made, of which to take any notice would be endleſs and abſurd, I perſuaded her to accompany her huſband.

The journey was performed ſucceſsfully; they both arrived at the place deſigned, in perfect health.

Nothing good or evil happened to the breaſt; every thing continued in the ſame ſituation.

I therefore make no doubt but that ſhe will now

now return to the external and internal uſe of hemlock, that what ſtill remains may be totally diſperſed.

During the lying-in this patient was under the care of Doctor Keſtler, a very eminent practitioner, and one of the principal phyſicians to the empreſs-queen.

But the firſt danger, and the firſt threatenings of a cancer, were overcome by the celebrated doctor Sylveſter ô Hara at Prague; to him, therefore, the greateſt praiſe is due, and the ſincereſt thanks deſerve to be returned.

For, moſt undoubtedly, this diſtemper would have killed both the mother and the child, if attention had been paid to the advice, or application made of the remedies which vagabonds and quacks are offering every day for the cure of ſuch complaints.

The infant is now in its ſeventh month, and very healthy.

Hence does it not appear, that hemlock is a moſt innocent medicine, which neither is hurtful to pregnant women, or to the burden which they carry?

CHAPTER IV.

COROLLARIES.

COROLLARY I. The hemlock does not diſſolve the blood into a putrid colliquation.

I have ordered ſeveral to be blooded, who had taken this plant in large doſes for a long continuance; and found the blood well colored, and of the beſt conſiſtence.

Dr. Keſtler having blooded a lady of quality, a little before ſhe was brought to bed, who had taken the hemlock during ſeveral months of her pregnancy; we both obſerved the blood perfectly reſembling that of the healthieſt perſons.

John Van Woenſol, a celebrated practitioner at Harlem, made the ſame obſervation on a woman, to whom he had given the hemlock for ſeveral months.

I have lately preſcribed a bleeding to a counteſs, who is my patient, and who has now taken the extract of hemlock theſe two months paſt; her blood was perfectly coherent, and in a more natural ſtate than before this treatment was begun; for then it was fibrous, and covered with a thick, mucous, variegated coat.

I call to witneſs any phyſician or ſurgeon who has made the experiment, whether he has ever obſerved otherwiſe than good blood in conſequence of a proper uſe of the hemlock-plant.

COROLLARY II. The hemlock does not bring on conſumptions.

To thoſe who have conſidered the caſes related by others, and by me, it muſt clearly appear, that the patients who had taken hemlock recovered their former ſtrength, and became fat, luſty, vigorous.

By the means of hemlock, nocturnal ſweats are very often ſtopped, the appetite is encreaſed,

the digeſtion is improved, the various functions are reſtored: why, therefore, ſhould a conſumption be ſuppoſed to follow?

The excellent Leopold Erndl, counſellor of health, was very uneaſy at the great number of boys and girls who died in his hoſpital of a ſcrophulous conſumption.

He adminiſtered, for ſeveral years, with the greateſt induſtry, a variety of medicines for this diſorder; but could by no means check its progreſs.

He therefore tried the hemlock in large doſes; things wore immediately a better aſpect; the children, who had been hitherto ſtupid, fearful, cachectic, emaciated, were now become hearty, fat, and ſtrong; and the ſchirs of the glands were gradually diſcuſſed.

This learned gentleman has very often politely invited me to his hoſpital, where he ſhewed me, with great pleaſure, the wonderful effects which the hemlock had produced on a multitude of boys and girls, and even on the moſt tender infants.

For the ſake of experiment, I have adminiſtered this plant to ſeveral perſons, for one, two, three years, and upwards, who are to this day healthy, ſtrong, active, and capable of doing any buſineſs.

COROLLARY III. The hemlock does not hurt the ſight.

And indeed I have often perceived the contrary effect from it on my patients.

For ſeveral among them had their eyes obſcured,

ſcured, continually running or ſmarting from a perpetual flow of ſharp tears, and were obliged, beſide, to make uſe of ſpectacles; but, on taking hemlock for ſome time, theſe vices of the eyes were mended; and ſeveral patients were enabled to lay aſide their ſpectacles.

COROLLARY IV. The hemlock does not take away the power of procreation.

I viſited a ſoldier, whom I cured, in two months time, by a plentiful uſe of hemlock, of ſchirrous ſwellings of the glands under the jaw, as alſo of the king's evil in his neck.

He departed the hoſpital completely cured, and in perfect health; but returned in a fortnight with a moſt virulent gonorrhea, which he confeſſed that he had contracted the day after he left the hoſpital.

By the means of a hydragogue purgative every eight days, by a conſtant uſe of the decoction of burdock-root, and the pills of hemlock, I cured the ſoldier of this virulent and obſtinate gonorrhea in about five weeks.

Other men, who had taken the hemlock in large quantities for a long continuance, I have ſcrupulouſly examined upon this head, requeſting, as a matter of importance, that they told the truth.

But they all declared ſolemnly to me, that the vigor of nature was not in the leaſt impaired; nay, even ſome aſſured me they had perceived an alteration for the better alſo in this article.

A man of ſixty-ſix years old, and paralytic, had taken hemlock for ſix months, and in ſo great a doſe, that for nine weeks he ſwallowed every day a dram and a half of the extract.

Among other good effects which this remedy produced, he told me, of his own accord, that nature had lain dormant in him for the twelve years preceding; but that at preſent, in conſequence of having taken hemlock, it awakened, and returned to him with all the vigor and activity of a man of thirty.

The wives of thoſe to whom much hemlock had been adminiſtered, I have examined on this ſubject, with the decency and ſerioufneſs becoming a phyſician; they all ſeemed ſatisfied, and confirmed me from their conſcience, that they never found their huſbands enfeebled by the uſe of hemlock.

I behaved, upon theſe occaſions, with great gravity and circumſpection.

But, in order not to rely entirely upon others in this article, I determined to try upon myſelf, whoſe conſtitution is not decayed, the effect of hemlock in the preſent inſtance, taken in a conſiderable quantity.

I perceived in conſequence no other change, than ſomewhat a more copious diſcharge of urine, much a better appetite, greater activity and ſpirits, with a full enjoyment of my wonted vigor.

May the hemlock be ſafely given in ſchirs of the lower belly?

Many have, not without reaſon, apprehended, that a ſuppuration might be thus excited, to which a mortal tympany would enſue.

But I can aſſert from multiplied experience, that I have diſperſed ſeveral ſchirs in the belly; that I have often cured the dropſy, which came in conſequence of ſchirrous viſcera in the abdomen; nor did a ſuppuration or tympany ever ſupervene.

In women, indeed, I have frequently ſeen purulent matter iſſue from the womb, and ſchirs conſequently diſcuſſed; in this caſe I judged that the matter diſſolved by the courſe of nature, found out a proper paſſage, and ſought a natural diſcharge.

The learned Doctor Collin has alſo preſcribed with me the ſame medicine in hardneſſes of the belly, which he never found to be without good effect; nor did he ever perceive, that from it, any ill aroſe.

But as, in other parts of the body, a ſuppuration is brought on by the uſe of hemlock, reaſon dictates the ſame may happen alſo in the belly; this, however, ſhould not deter a good phyſician from employing it.

CAUTIONS.

I Have related ſeveral caſes, in which the hemlock is beneficial; I do not, however pretend

pretend, that we are to rely always on this plant alone.

Other remedies muſt alſo ſometimes accompany the hemlock.

It will be neceſſary for the phyſician judiciouſly to follow the reſpective indications.

The ſurgeon muſt alter, add, and take away, according as reaſon, founded on experience, dictates.

Several perſons, who have read my firſt eſſay on this ſubject, have underſtood my opinion wrong, thinking I offered this remedy as univerſal, to the world, and alone ſufficient in every caſe.

But this was far from my intention.

This only I affirm, that hemlock is productive of effects which the moſt boaſted ſpecifics are unable to perform.

That it cureth cancers, is a fact I have ſeen, and of which I am convinced by a multitude of experiments; nor do I from hence aſſert, that it is effectual againſt every cancer; nor, that from the hemlock alone is the whole cure always to be expected.

If out of an hundred patients, whom other phyſicians have deſpaired of and abandoned, I can preſerve even one, I am ſatisfied; but the number of perſons reſtored to perfect health, is far, indeed, ſuperior.

Mercury cures the venereal diſorder; but is it always proper? does it always cure? are there not thouſands killed by this diſorder?

The peruvian bark is a ſpecific for the ague; and yet there are inſtances where it is not of ſervice

ſervice; how many are there not, where even it is hurtful?

Are, therefore, ſuch remedies to be neglected, and accounted uſeleſs or pernicious?

Skilful phyſicians will give the ſame account of all other ſuppoſed ſpecifics.

If there are perſons, who on account of their particular conſtitution, or from a complication of ſymptoms, cannot ſupport the hemlock, let ſuch refrain from taking it.

If the ſymptoms require, alſo, other medicines, why may not they be adminiſtered together with this plant?

Purgatives are often neceſſary.

Sometimes it may be proper alſo to order a bleeding.

In plethoric diſpoſitions, hemorrhages ſhould not ſuddenly be ſtopped; for to ſuch patients they agree much better, than artificial bleedings.

In weak conſtitutions, on the contrary, the agaric of the oak muſt immediately and effectually be applied.

The agaric, however, ſhould be only fixed to the ſpot from whence guſhes out the blood; extended over the entire ulcer, or the wound, it is pernicious, and often, indeed, fatal.

In ſome caſes, cooling antiphlogiſtic remedies are indicated as well as the hemlock.

This happens moſt in the gout and rheumatiſm.

Sometimes emollients, digeſtives ſometimes, and ſometimes aſtringents, are required.

The knife muſt now and then alſo be employed

ployed, in giving the matter a diſcharge, which I have often obſerved in the ſpina ventoſa; in order that the carious and corrupted parts may be ſeparated from the ſound.

A fungous cancer muſt alſo be ſometimes extracted with the knife.

But leaſt, in ſimilar caſes, a relapſe ſhould happen, the hemlock ought to be employed, which is ſufficient to prevent it.

It happens, in many inſtances, that the callous lips of cancers, or even fungous cancers themſelves, are conſumed by the means of the following remedy alone:

Take of the plant of hemlock, two drams and a half,
of honey of roſes, three ounces.

Theſe ingredients are to be ſpread on pledgets of lint, and being applied to the part affected, are to be renewed as often as prudence ſuggeſts to be neceſſary.

When a judicious phyſician joins with an expert ſurgeon, in endeavoring to cure deſperate diſorders, they frequently make ſurprizing cures.

But if they diſagree, or are ignorant of the proper treatment, the patient muſt neceſſarily ſuffer or expire.

If women will but diſcover their complaints as ſoon as they perceive them, and phyſicians preſcribe the hemlock a proper time; I make no doubt, but that in ſome years we ſhould meet but with very few cancers of the breaſt.

The

The hemlock never requires a ſtrict regimen to be obſerved.

It allows every thing which the ſtomach eaſily digeſts, and which is capable of becoming proper nouriſhment.

Nor is wine forbid, or acids hurtful when taken in a moderate quantity.

And, indeed, every phyſician knows already what is ſuitable to his patient, and what pernicious.

There is no ſuch thing as a univerſal law.

The END.